

CA1  
MI5  
74504



3 1761 11767345 9



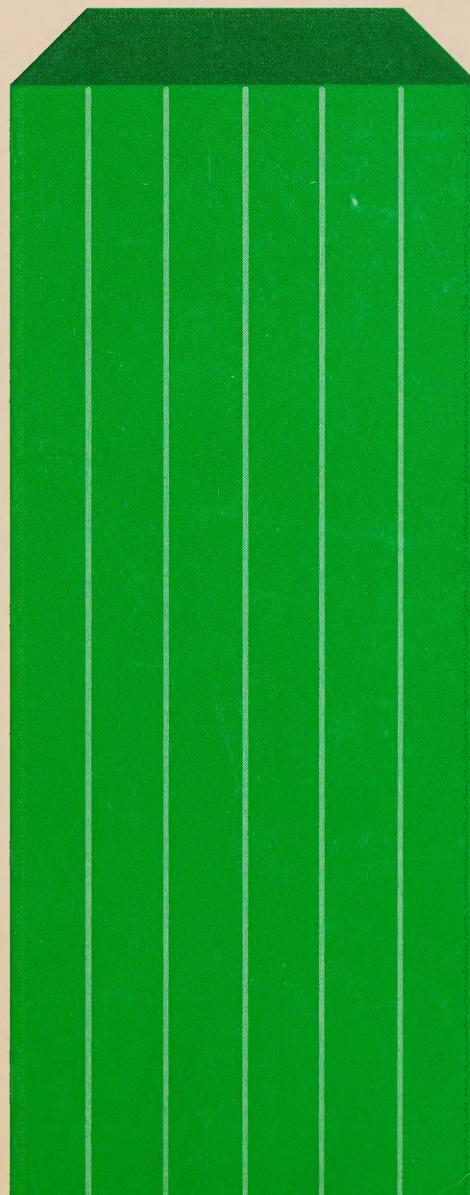
Canadian  
immigration  
population  
survey

1975

1974

# Three years in Canada

First report of the longitudinal survey on the  
economic and social adaptation of immigrants





Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2023 with funding from  
University of Toronto

<https://archive.org/details/31761117673459>

CAI MI 5-74504

Govt. Pubns Stock Co.  
C-3.

Government  
Publications

Canada Dept. of Manpower & Immigration

Canadian  
immigration  
and population  
study

Green Paper on Immigration

547 **Three years  
in Canada**

**First report  
of the longitudinal survey  
on the economic and social  
adaptation of immigrants**



Manpower  
and Immigration

Main-d'œuvre  
et Immigration



# Three years in Canada

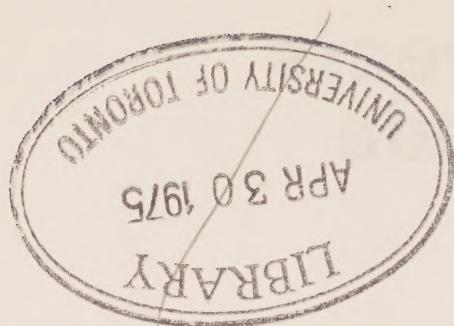


Manpower  
and Immigration

Robert Andras  
Minister

Main-d'œuvre  
et Immigration

Robert Andras  
Ministre



## THREE YEARS IN CANADA

© Crown Copyrights reserved

Available by mail from Information Canada, Ottawa, K1A 0S9  
and at the following Information Canada bookshops:

HALIFAX  
1683 Barrington Street

MONTREAL  
640 St. Catherine Street West

OTTAWA  
171 Slater Street

TORONTO  
221 Yonge Street

WINNIPEG  
393 Portage Avenue

VANCOUVER  
800 Granville Street

or through your bookseller

Price: \$3.00      Catalogue No. MP23-37-1974-4

Price subject to change without notice

Information Canada  
Ottawa, 1974

02KX-38434-74-40465  
Richelieu Graphics Ltd.

Canadian  
immigration  
and population  
study

Étude  
sur l'immigration  
et les objectifs  
démographiques  
du Canada

**Titles in this series**

Immigration  
policy  
perspectives

The immigration  
program

Immigration  
and population  
statistics

Three years  
in Canada

First report of the longitudinal  
survey on the economic and  
social adaptation of  
immigrants

**Titres de la  
présente série**

Perspectives  
de la politique  
d'immigration

Le programme  
d'immigration

Statistiques  
sur l'immigration  
et la population

Trois ans de vie  
au Canada

Premier rapport de l'étude  
longitudinale sur l'adaptation  
économique et sociale des  
immigrants



# CONTENTS

Introduction .....	1
Summary .....	5
<b>Part 1</b>	
<b>THE ECONOMIC ADAPTATION OF IMMIGRANTS</b>	
1. Between Arrival and Work .....	17
2. Unemployment .....	21
Numbers of Unemployed .....	21
Labour Market Demand .....	23
Education .....	24
Duration of Unemployment .....	26
3. The Employment Experience of Immigrants .....	29
Occupational Distribution .....	29
Intended Occupation .....	32
Job Mobility .....	35
Immigrant Wives .....	42
4. The Self-Employed Immigrants .....	45
5. Income .....	51
Poverty Among Immigrants .....	55
6. Housing .....	61
7. Educational Courses and Training .....	67
Occupational or Skill Courses .....	69
General Educational Courses .....	69
Language Courses .....	69
Language Attainment .....	71
8. Residential Mobility .....	75
Age and Mobility .....	76
Mobility by Immigration Classes .....	77
Intended Destination and Actual Residence .....	78

**Part 2**  
**SOCIAL ADAPTATION OF IMMIGRANTS**

9. The Immigrant's Social Position .....	83
10. Community Acceptance .....	87
11. Cultural Identity .....	95
Ethnic Origin of Spouse .....	95
Language Spoken at Home .....	98
Knowledge of Canada's Official Languages .....	101
Participation in an Association .....	106
Sense of Belonging .....	107
12. Satisfaction with Canadian Conditions .....	111
Views About Employment Opportunities .....	112
Views About Earnings .....	112
Views About the Cost of Living .....	115
Views About Housing .....	116
Views About Health Services .....	116
Views About Educational Facilities .....	118
Views About Cultural Facilities .....	120
Views About Recreational Facilities .....	121

**Part 3**

**THE DECISION TO EMIGRATE AND THE  
INTENTION TO SETTLE**

13. The Decision to Emigrate .....	125
Accuracy of Information Received Abroad .....	128
14. The Intention to Settle in Canada .....	131
Settlement Intentions by Level of Education .....	134

**APPENDIX**

Characteristics of the Sample .....	139
-------------------------------------	-----

## INTRODUCTION

Canada is in the forefront of those nations whose economic, social, and cultural development has been shaped by immigration. In the post-war years alone, more than 3.8 million immigrants have arrived in this country.

However, it is only in recent years that research has been conducted into the "adjustment" of newcomers – how long it took them to find their first jobs, whether they found work in their intended occupations, the obstacles they encountered in getting qualifications recognized, their earnings, their acceptance in the community, and their satisfaction with different aspects of Canadian life. Many hypotheses have been advanced over the years on these points, but few have been tested. The result has sometimes been a stereotyping of immigrants, and a poor understanding of the real nature and speed of their adjustment to life in Canada.

The need for more and better information led the Department of Manpower and Immigration to undertake a systematic study of the economic and social adaptation of groups of immigrants who arrived in Canada during the years 1969 to 1971. These immigrants were questioned on their motives for migrating and, periodically during their first three years, on factors bearing on their adaptation. The study has three important characteristics:

1. It is based on a representative sample of all immigrants entering the labour force. Earlier studies of immigrant adjustment had been limited to selected groups, often in selected parts of the country.
2. It is "longitudinal" – it follows the same group of people over a full three years from the date of their arrival. It is thus able, on a comprehensive basis, to portray their adjustment as a continuing process.
3. Questionnaires were sent at the same time to a group of Canadian residents with characteristics

similar to those of the immigrants. Hence comparisons can be made between immigrants and Canadians on such matters as employment, unemployment, incomes, and housing.

The complete study will cover three groups or cohorts of immigrants arriving in each of the years 1969, 1970, and 1971. The collection of data will consequently continue through 1974.

This report, *Three Years in Canada*, describes the results obtained from the first of the three groups of immigrants, those who arrived in 1969. Future publications will provide similar data on the adjustment of immigrants arriving in 1970 and 1971.

The Department has embarked on a major research program that will analyze many aspects of the adjustment process which have a bearing on immigration policy. Current or planned studies will include, for example, the adaptation of immigrants in certain metropolitan areas, their geographic mobility, the adjustment of immigrant professionals, the role of knowledge of the official languages, and the educational and cultural factors in adjustment.

Some of the studies based on the longitudinal survey have already led to improvements in Canadian reception services for immigrants. The early survey returns, for instance, made it clear that additional counselling services in Canada Manpower Centres and additional language training were particularly required by nominated immigrants. Later material made it clear that at least minimal demand for the skills of immigrants was an important prerequisite to rapid and successful settlement and adjustment. These studies both stimulated and permitted improvements in our settlement and selection systems. The survey will thus be a major instrument for determining how Canada can best attract, select, and assist the settlement of those who will come to join us in future years.

Co-ordinated efforts by many people were required to complete the survey. First and foremost, appreciation must be expressed for the time and tolerance of the immigrants who participated in this study. Without their wholehearted

co-operation in providing views and information about themselves, their families and their reception in Canada, the survey would not have been possible.

The survey was carried out under the direction of Dr. Edgar Ziegler, of the Strategic Planning and Research Division, Department of Manpower and Immigration. Its successful completion is due to his dedicated leadership, and to the many people – including his senior colleagues, Messrs. R. Gaudreau and R. F. Gordon – who have worked with him over the years to make this project possible.



## SUMMARY

Initial information from the longitudinal survey provides a reasonable picture of how at least one group of immigrants — those arriving in 1969 — fared during their first three years in Canada. Their progress can be charted along several dimensions — *economic adjustment, social adaptation, and motivation for migrating*.

Before summarizing the survey results, a major feature of the survey itself should be noted. Although the initial sample included approximately 5,000 immigrants, the main survey findings are based on the responses of the 2,037 immigrants who remained in the survey — returning all four questionnaires — for the full three years. On most questions the report omits the views and experiences of those who chose not to respond to one or more of the questionnaires, who left Canada during the survey period, or moved within Canada and could not be traced by mail.

### Economic Adjustment

Economic factors were of considerable importance in shaping the success or failure of immigrants to adjust to the Canadian way of life. Primary among such factors were their experiences in the job market.

Half of the 161,531 immigrants who came to Canada in 1969 were destined to the labour force. Independent and nominated immigrants accounted respectively for 65 per cent and 26 per cent of these labour force entrants in 1969. Independent immigrants were those admitted on the basis of nine selection criteria, on which they had to obtain 50 out of 100 points to be admitted to Canada. Nominated relatives of Canadian residents were admitted on the basis of five selection criteria, their relationship to the nominator in Canada and the nominator's citizenship status. In a normal immigration year, about 60 per cent of all the immigrants

joining the labour force are in the independent class and about 30 per cent in the nominated class. During economic slow-downs in Canada, the proportion of nominated relatives usually increases. These classes and the selection factors are illustrated in the following table. For a complete description, the reader is referred to a companion report from the Canadian Immigration and Population Study, *The Immigration Program*.

According to the survey results, only about one-quarter of all the immigrant labour force entrants had pre-arranged jobs. However, within a week and a half of their arrival, 50 per cent of all the immigrants who eventually entered the labour force had already started working. For the other 50 per cent, finding a job took quite a bit longer, with the result that the average time from arriving to starting to work for all immigrants was four weeks.

By occupation, the largest proportion of all the new workers entered managerial, professional or technical fields, followed by craftsmen and clerical and sales occupations. Over the ensuing two years of the study, this occupational picture of the immigrants remained essentially unchanged.

To a large extent, immigrants were able to realize the occupational intentions they held prior to arrival in Canada. A lack of demand for specific skills in Canada was an important reason for failing to move into their intended occupation. Other hurdles were cited: lack of Canadian experience in their chosen occupation field; failure to have their qualifications recognized; and language difficulties (although this had ceased to be a problem for most by the end of their third year in Canada). A significant number simply changed their minds about the kind of work they wanted after they arrived.

Over the survey period, the immigrant sample showed considerable stability of employment. A substantial proportion, some 47 per cent, did not change jobs during the first three years after arrival, and an additional 25 per cent changed jobs only once. It appears, therefore, that the majority of immigrants were able to find acceptable jobs in Canada soon after arrival.

## SUMMARY OF SELECTION FACTORS

## INDEPENDENT APPLICANTS

<i>Long-Term Factors</i>	<i>Range of units of assessment that may be awarded</i>
Education & Training	0 — 20
Personal Qualities	0 — 15
Occupational Demand	0 — 15
Occupational Skill	1 — 10
Age	0 — 10
<i>Short-Term Factors</i>	
Arranged employment/designated occupation	0 or 10
Knowledge of English and/or French	0 — 10
Relative in Canada	0 or 3 or 5
Area of destination	0 — 5
Potential maximum	100

## NOMINATED RELATIVES

Long-term factors (as for independent applicants)	1 — 70
Short-term settlement arrangements provided by relative in Canada	15, 20, 25, or 30
Potential maximum	100

## SPONSORED DEPENDENTS

Close relative in Canada willing to take responsibility for care and maintenance	Units of assessment not required
--	----------------------------------

## NOTES:

1. Independent Applicants and Nominated Relatives, to qualify for selection, must normally earn 50 or more of the potential 100 units of assessment. In addition they must have received at least one unit for the occupational demand factor or be destined to arranged employment or a designated occupation.
2. In unusual cases selection officers may accept or reject an Independent Applicant or Nominated Relative notwithstanding the actual number of units of assessment awarded.
3. Entrepreneurs are assessed in the same way as Independent Applicants except that they receive an automatic 25 units of assessment in lieu of any units they might have received for the occupational demand and occupational skill factors.

Information on the wives of immigrants in the sample shows that the majority neither took jobs initially nor were employed by the end of the third year. Nevertheless, the proportion of working immigrant wives exceeds that of Canadian wives in general. Moreover, during the three-year period, there did appear to be a growing tendency on the part of these immigrant wives to join the work force, particularly in Ontario and Quebec. For four-fifths of these working wives, the husband's employment income was less than \$10,000 three years after arrival.

For some of the 1969 immigrants, unemployment was a problem during their first three years. It was a problem particularly in their first six months of residence in Canada. Their unfamiliarity with the Canadian labour market and other job barriers, such as language difficulties, combined with a high rate of unemployment in Canada during this period, put them at a competitive disadvantage in the job market. Unemployment was particularly high in this early period among nominated immigrants and those whose occupations were not in demand in the Canadian labour market.

Decreases in the overall unemployment rates of male immigrants in the sample were marked in the first two years, and then more gradual, with the result that the unemployment rate for those immigrants dropped from 10.1 per cent six months after arrival to 4.8 per cent by the end of their third year (1972) — the final level being higher than the Canadian control group's 3.7 per cent but below the average of 6.8 per cent for the male Canadian labour force. At the same time, the duration of unemployment diminished until by the end of the third year after arrival the immigrant sample as a whole, at 2.8 weeks on average, was within striking distance of the control group on this measure. Altogether, considering that average levels of unemployment in Canada remained high during this period, it can be concluded that immigrants were very successful in finding employment in Canada.

The demand for the occupational skills of the immigrant was a decisive factor in his economic adaptation. Those whose occupations had no demand in the Canadian labour market

had an average unemployment rate of 10 per cent during their first three years in Canada. This was 50 per cent higher than the average unemployment of persons whose skills were in demand, and triple the unemployment rate of those who, in addition, had arranged a job before emigrating to this country.

The unemployment experiences of independent and nominated immigrants showed interesting differences. During their first six months in Canada, the unemployment rate of nominated immigrants was two and a half times that of the independent immigrants. One year after arrival, the nominated immigrants had reduced their unemployment rate from more than 16 per cent to under 10 per cent. Over the next two years, nominated immigrants continued to make substantial progress, with the result that their unemployment rate in the third year was, for the first time, fairly close to that of independent immigrants. Nominated immigrants appeared to have considerably more difficulty in integrating themselves into the labour force than did independent immigrants, although their problems clearly diminished over time.

Within the 1969 sample of immigrants were 91 who became self-employed — that is, persons whose earnings were derived from business ventures or professional practices which they owned and directed. Although as a rule the self-employed represent only 5 per cent of immigrants, they are important because they create new employment opportunities. In fact, by the end of their third year in Canada, the total number of newly-created jobs as a result of the self-employed immigrants in this sample amounted to 606, even though most of the businesses were rather small and only six employed 11 or more staff. These self-employed immigrants enjoyed an income that was about twice as high as that of all the immigrants in the sample.

Changes in the incomes of immigrants tended to parallel their employment successes. The improvement in the incomes of the sample immigrants was quite dramatic up to the end of their second year, rising from an effective initial annual income of \$5,766 to a level of \$9,096. The increase to a level of \$10,040 in their third year was still strong enough to keep

the immigrants ahead of inflation, but they lost some ground to the Canadian control group, whose more rapid rate of increase took them from an average income of \$10,263 in 1971 to \$12,115 in 1972. It is notable that the monthly earnings of immigrants whose intended occupations were in demand in Canada were \$118 higher, and those with pre-arranged employment were \$408 higher, than those of immigrants whose occupations were in surplus.

Corresponding to these income changes were fluctuations in the incidence of poverty among the sample immigrants. The percentage of immigrants living below the poverty line (as defined in Chapter 5) decreased sharply from 22 per cent during the first six months of their residence in Canada to four per cent during their third year. By the third year, unemployment had become increasingly important in explaining the income situation of those remaining below the poverty line.

Housing posed several problems for immigrants over the study period. In the early months after arrival, housing and household expenditures were very high for all sizes of family. Against these high expenditures were the low initial incomes of immigrants and the tight Canadian housing market, with the result that immigrants found suitable accommodation a continuing problem, though a diminishing one through time.

As part of the progression to better and more stable accommodation immigrants moved frequently. Usually moves were within the same city, town or village in which they had initially settled, with the three major metropolitan areas — Montreal, Vancouver and Toronto, led by the latter — showing special holding power. Only 15 per cent of the respondents did not move over the three-year period, and on average all immigrants moved twice. Immigrants, when they first arrive in a new country, are obviously in a situation conducive to high mobility.

During their first three years in Canada, almost 50 per cent of all immigrants followed part-time or short-term educational courses or training. Occupation or skill courses were the most popular, and about 20 per cent took formal language training. Partly because of these language courses, there was a substantial reduction in the percentage of

immigrants who were not fluent in either English or French. Among those who did take language training during the period, the number fluent in French almost doubled and the number fluent in English increased by about a half.

All in all, economic adjustment appeared to occur quite rapidly for the majority of immigrants who arrived in 1969. By the end of the immigrant's third year in Canada, the differences between him and his Canadian counterpart on a variety of economic measures had become rather small. Several factors – such as age and education, for example – had some effect on the speed with which this economic integration occurred.

## Social Adaptation

After a year in Canada, one-fifth of the immigrant sample thought that their overall social situation had deteriorated as compared with their social position in their country of origin. Half saw no difference. Three-tenths felt there had been an improvement. Those who were unemployed or not working in their chosen professions were negative far more often on this matter than were those who were employed in positions that matched their expectations.

No less than 90 per cent of the sample at any one time expressed the sentiment that they were either very well or generally accepted in their communities. Once again, employment and unemployment experiences were important factors influencing this perception.

Certain types of behaviour generally are said to contribute to maintaining the cultural identity of immigrants – for example, intermarriage within one's own ethnic group, speaking one's mother tongue at home, and becoming involved in the voluntary associations of one's own ethnic group. On these questions, the longitudinal survey showed some interesting results. There was an increasing tendency to marry across ethnic lines with the passage of time, with the young, the independent immigrants, and the immigrants from English-speaking countries leading the way. The number of immigrants speaking a mother tongue at home

other than French or English dropped by only six per cent in two years, but the number with a working knowledge of one of these languages increased by 10 per cent. By the end of their second year, 31 per cent of the sample were participating in voluntary associations in which, in close to two-thirds of the cases, Canadians constituted the majority. After three years' residence in Canada, 55 per cent of the immigrants polled reported that they felt at home or *chez soi* in Canada; only 14 per cent felt more attached to their country of origin, while 31 per cent were undecided.

Immigrants appeared to be better satisfied with social and cultural services in Canada than with economic conditions. When asked about jobs and the cost of living, just over 60 per cent, on average, replied that they were "satisfied" or "very satisfied". But with respect to health, education, and recreation services, corresponding proportions were over 80 per cent. The highest degree of dissatisfaction was found, not unexpectedly, among those who were unemployed or working in jobs outside their own chosen profession.

## Motivation

Finally, a few concerns that may be termed motivational are important in gauging immigrant adjustment in Canada.

The motives to emigrate to Canada were primarily but not solely a matter of economic or social considerations. Most immigrants in the 1969 sample said that they came to Canada to improve their economic situation, but other factors — such as a desire for travel or adventure — motivated a significant minority. It was surprising to find that the desire to be near relatives was the motive of a *minority* of the nominated immigrants, in spite of the important role played by their relatives in paving the way for their admission to Canada.

Close to 90 per cent of the 1969 sample answered that they had obtained some information about Canada before emigrating. Eighty-three per cent of the independent immigrants and 89 per cent of the nominated immigrants felt that the information they had received was accurate. The

main sources of their information were friends and relatives in Canada and Canadian immigration officials abroad. This finding conflicts with statements sometimes made that immigration offices abroad paint too glowing a picture of conditions in Canada.

The size of the group of immigrants who did not remain in Canada plus the stated intentions with respect to permanent settlement by those still here is one measure of the immigrant's adaptation to life in this country. It may also reflect the immigrant's perception of conditions here before arriving. The survey found that three years after their arrival, only seven per cent of respondents expressed a definite intention to leave Canada, compared with 24 per cent who had originally intended to stay only a short while. It also showed that at least 16 per cent of the original sample had left Canada during the three years; of this group about 60 per cent originally had not intended to settle permanently.



## Part 1

### THE ECONOMIC ADAPTATION OF IMMIGRANTS

Part 1 comprises eight chapters that trace the adaptation of immigrants to the Canadian economy. It includes sections on employment, unemployment, the self-employed immigrant, income, housing, and residential mobility.

The main conclusion indicated by the data from the longitudinal survey is that economic adaptation appeared to occur quite rapidly for most immigrants. By the end of their third year in Canada, economic differences between the immigrants and other Canadians had become rather small, though there were still significant gaps in income levels and home ownership.



## BETWEEN ARRIVAL AND WORK

For most of the surveyed immigrants who did not move into employment immediately, the delay was involuntary, caused by the need to find accommodation, learn the language, or look for a suitable job. About one-quarter of the immigrants in the sample were not under the same pressure because they had arranged their employment before emigrating.

One of the purposes of the longitudinal survey was to measure the extent of unemployment in order to assess its impact on the immigrant. Questions were asked to establish the numbers unemployed at each stage of the survey, and the duration of unemployment in the intervening months. The same questions were also asked of the Canadian control group, thus making possible a comparison of the unemployment experience of immigrants with that of a group of Canadians similar with respect to age, sex, geographic location and occupation. This comparison has important implications for immigration policy, and already has been employed to identify potentially useful changes in the immigration program.

For the new immigrant the first task after arrival is to find accommodation and settle in. The next and probably most important concern is to find a job and start earning money. In this survey, as in many similar studies, the availability of jobs, type of work, and earnings, were found to be the major preoccupation of immigrants. A substantial part of the survey was therefore devoted to employment questions, and the question dealt with in this chapter is:

Please state the number of weeks between your arrival in Canada and the day you started to work in your first job.

For this part of the analysis the answers of all respondents to the first questionnaire were used even if they did not answer subsequent questionnaires.

Immigrants are not necessarily unemployed (in the technical sense) during the whole of the interval between arrival and starting work. Apart from the need to find a place to live they may have several reasons for not starting work — a language course, for example, or a prearranged job starting at a later date. These activities might prevent them from looking for a job, or even taking one if it were offered. To find out how much of the initial non-working period was taken up by these activities, the immigrants were asked about the duration of their unemployment. It is unfortunate that the response to this question on the first questionnaire was not good enough to use the figures, and the precise answer to the question is therefore not known. An examination of the duration of unemployment reported during subsequent years and the unemployment rates of the first and following years (see Chapter 3) strongly suggest, however, that immigrants were looking for work during a large part of this initial period.

The average time taken for all immigrants to start work was a little over four weeks. Fifty per cent were working after one and a half weeks. One-quarter of them had pre-arranged jobs and most of these were at work after two weeks. The remaining respondents in the sample took considerably longer — more than two months in some cases — bringing the overall average to 4.2 weeks (See Table 1.1).

About four-fifths of all independent immigrants and more than two-thirds of all nominated immigrants were at work within one month of their arrival, compared with only just over one-half of those who were refugees, sponsored immigrants or immigrants admitted under an Order-in-Council. The average period before starting work for the latter groups was 7.5 weeks, partly because many refugees were brought in under special programs that offered them language courses before they entered the labour market.

It was not the most educated who started to work first. For example, those with less than high school education waited an average of about four weeks, compared with nearly four and a half weeks for those with higher levels of education. In terms of age, more than three-quarters of all immigrants in the 20-34 age group had found work within

TABLE 1.1  
AVERAGE PERIOD BETWEEN  
ARRIVAL IN CANADA AND STARTING WORK

	Number of Weeks
All Immigrants	4.2
Immigrants with pre-arranged jobs	1.7
Immigrants without pre-arranged jobs	5.0
Independent immigrants	3.3
Nominated immigrants	5.5
Sponsored and others	7.5
35 years of age or less	4.1
Over 35 years of age	4.9
Less than high school education	4.1
Higher levels of education	4.4

four weeks of their arrival; those in other age groups experienced longer delays.

Males took about as long to start work as females: 58 per cent of male and 55 per cent of female immigrants intending to work were at work within two weeks of their arrival, and roughly 75 per cent of both groups had jobs within a period of four weeks. There were no significant differences between areas of destination in the time required to start working.

There were noticeable differences in initial non-working time between immigrants of different nationality. Immigrants from Britain began working about two and a half weeks after arrival. The time involved for other immigrants from major source countries was as follows: Germany and Portugal nearly three weeks; Italy, the Philippines and the West Indies approximately four and a half weeks; Greece and India about five and a half weeks; and China and Yugoslavia six and a half weeks.



## UNEMPLOYMENT

### Numbers of Unemployed

The number of unemployed immigrants in the sample was high during the first year in Canada – two to three times higher, relatively, than the comparable native-born group (see Chart 2.1). This was not unexpected, given their unfamiliarity with the Canadian labour market, the language barriers and problems related to recognition of qualifications. Moreover, the survey was taken in a period of economic slowdown in Canada, during which the overall unemployment rate reached a 10-year high. The scarcity of job opportunities during this period undoubtedly posed a serious obstacle to many new immigrants.

After six months in Canada just over 10 per cent of the immigrants were unemployed. This level dropped to about seven per cent at the end of the first year, to six per cent after two years, and to about five per cent after three years. In contrast, the unemployment level among members of the control group rose during the period, though it remained considerably below that of the immigrant sample. At the end of three years both were lower than the overall unemployment rates of the Canadian labour force. These lower rates can partly be explained by the predominance of prime-age males in the sample – a group that normally has lower unemployment rates.

Of the two main classes of immigrants – independent and nominated – the latter experienced much more difficulty in finding work, with one out of every six jobless in the first six months. Their unemployment did not fall below the *initial* unemployment of independent immigrants until the end of their third year in Canada. By that time, however, the difference between the two immigrant classes had been sharply reduced.

CHART 2.1

MALE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES – IMMIGRANT SAMPLE,  
THE CONTROL GROUP, AND THE CANADIAN  
LABOUR FORCE

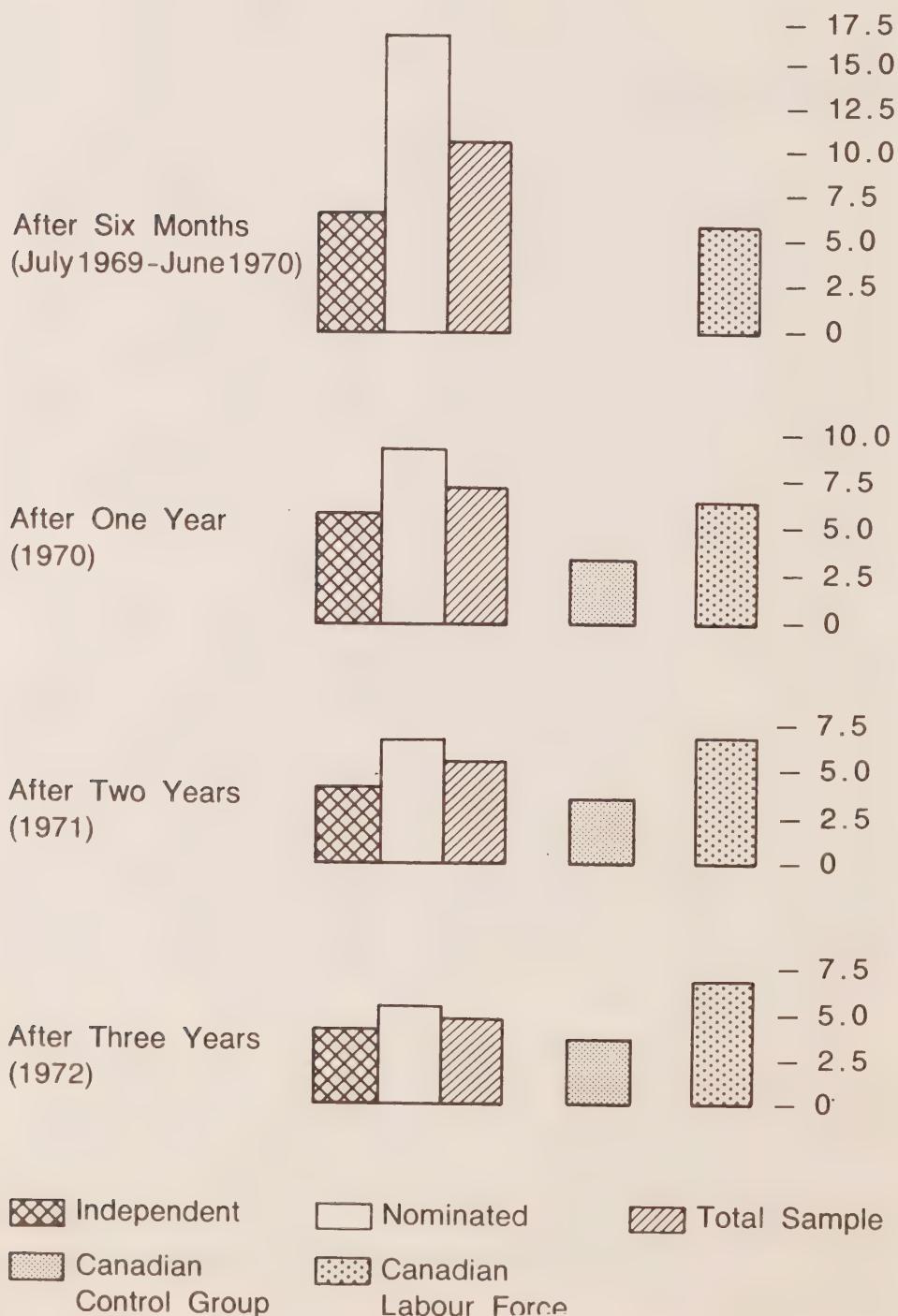


TABLE 2.1  
 UNEMPLOYMENT RATES AMONG  
 IMMIGRANTS, BY SEX  
 (Percentages)

	After One Year	After Two Years	After Three Years
Men	7.4	5.7	4.8
Women*	6.6	6.3	3.8

\* Heads of families or single persons destined to the labour force.

Female immigrants had somewhat less difficulty than males in finding jobs. Their unemployment followed the same trend, but at a generally lower level.

### Labour Market Demand

As noted above, independent immigrants were more successful than nominated immigrants in finding work, and we shall see in the next chapter that this is closely related to the fact that the demand for occupational skill in Canada has much greater weight in their selection than it does in the selection of nominated immigrants. Here we can demonstrate the crucial influence of occupational demand on the level of unemployment by dividing the immigrants of the sample into (a) those whose intended occupation was in demand in Canada, (b) those whose occupation was in demand and who had a prearranged job, and (c) those whose occupation was not in demand. More than half of the sample (55 per cent) was in the first group, and almost one-quarter in each of the other two.

The survey showed that unemployment was negligible among immigrants with a prearranged job. Almost all moved into employment within three months of arrival in Canada, whereas one in every five in a "no-demand" occupation was unemployed for more than three of their first six months

TABLE 2.2  
IMPACT OF OCCUPATIONAL DEMAND  
ON UNEMPLOYMENT

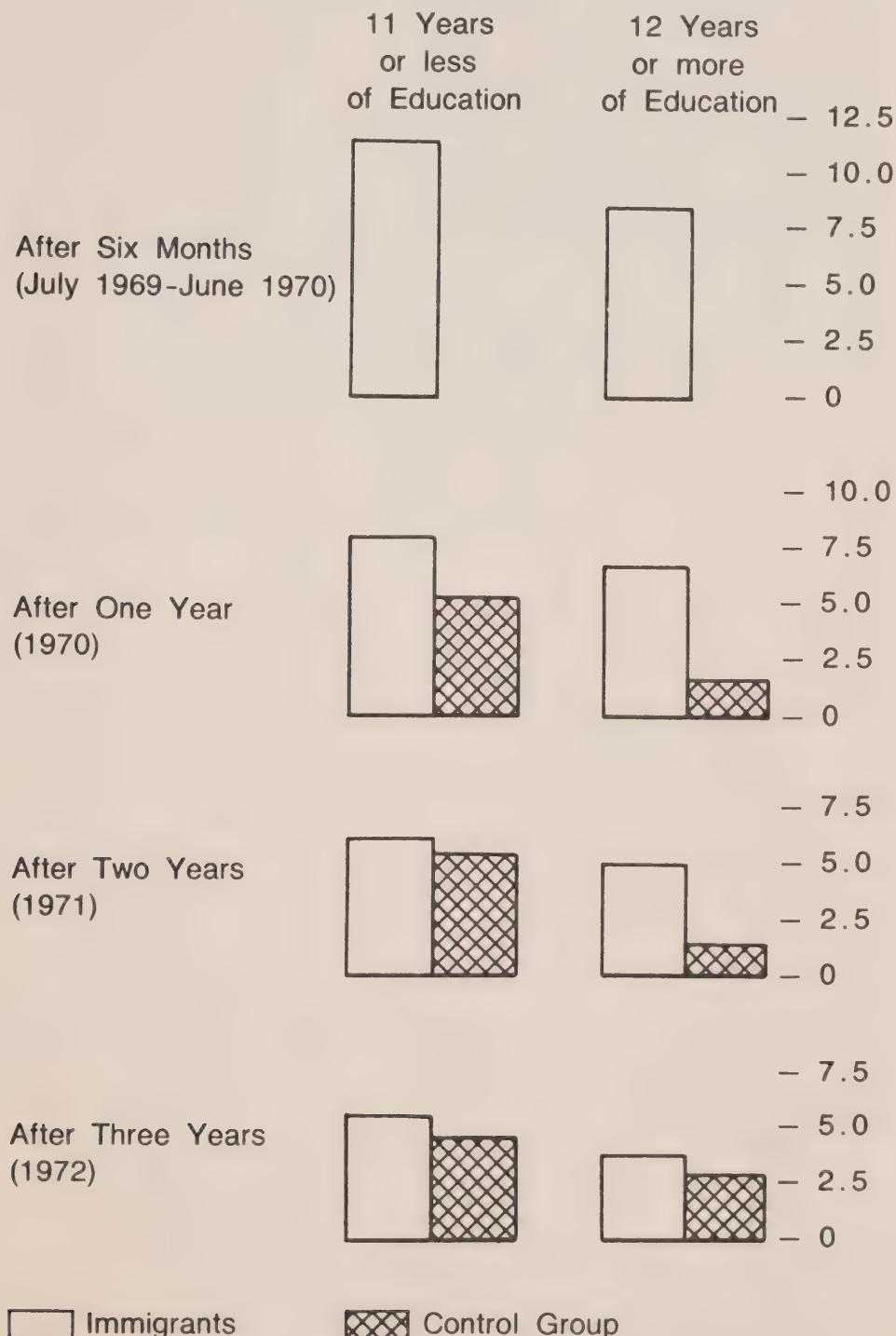
Period	Unemployment Rates for Immigrants in Occupations with:		
	No Demand	Some Demand and	
		No Job Arranged	Job Arranged
	%	%	%
After six months	16.8	10.8	1.8
After one year	9.3	7.8	4.0
After two years	8.7	5.7	1.5
After three years	5.5	4.9	3.1
Average	10.0	7.2	2.6

here. At the end of that period 16.8 per cent of the "no-demand" group was still jobless. Over the full three years the average unemployment rate in this group was 10 per cent. The three-year average was 7.2 per cent for immigrants whose occupations were in demand, and 2.6 per cent for those who, in addition, had a prearranged job.

## Education

For members of both the immigrant and control groups, unemployment was lower among those with at least high school education than among the less educated. It is also notable that among the more highly educated, the difference in unemployment between immigrants and Canadians was particularly wide in the first two years. This is particularly true with respect to nominated immigrants and to those with problems related to recognition or acceptance of their professional qualifications.

## CHART 2.2

MALE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES – IMMIGRANT SAMPLE  
BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION

## Duration of Unemployment

At each stage of the survey respondents were asked to report the number of weeks they had been unemployed in the preceding period, regardless of whether they were employed at the time. This question was poorly answered in the first two questionnaires but produced useable data for the remaining two periods — the immigrants' second and third years in Canada.

With one or two exceptions the results are much the same as those reported above, and are summarized in Table 2.3.

TABLE 2.3  
DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT  
(In Weeks)

	Immigrants		Control Group	
	Second Year	Third Year	Second Year	Third Year
Total	3.6	2.8	2.6	2.1
Class				
Independent immigrants	2.9	2.0		
Nominated immigrants	4.6	3.8		
Education				
1-8 years	5.3	4.0	4.5	4.2
9-11 years	3.2	2.7	3.6	2.9
12 years and over	2.8	2.1	1.3	1.1
Age				
15-19 years	5.0	4.0	*	5.9
20-24 years	3.7	3.3	2.9	3.0
25-29 years	3.0	2.3	2.0	1.0
30 years and over	3.7	2.7	2.6	2.3
Region of destination				
Atlantic	3.1	*	3.5	*
Quebec	4.1	3.6	2.0	1.3
Ontario	3.7	2.8	2.3	2.2
Prairie	2.8	1.2	3.4	1.7
Pacific	3.4	3.0	2.5	2.9

\* Not enough observations to report separately.

Immigrants were unemployed for 3.6 weeks, on average, during their second year in Canada. This dropped to 2.8 weeks in the third year, still one-third longer than the average duration of the control group. In the control group, incidentally, average duration fell between the second and third years, in contrast to a rise in the *numbers* of unemployed.

Length of unemployment was much higher among nominated immigrants than independent immigrants. The higher the level of education the shorter was the average duration of unemployment. Duration of unemployment declined with the age of the respondent up to 30 years, rising thereafter. Immigrants who settled in the Prairie provinces experienced the least unemployment, with longer periods among those who moved to the Atlantic provinces, British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec.



## THE EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE OF IMMIGRANTS

In examining some features of the immigrant's employment experience during this first three years in Canada, this chapter looks first at the occupational distribution of the sample to indicate levels of training and skill. Next there is a discussion of the extent to which the immigrant was able to move into a job in his intended occupation, and a more detailed examination of those who were in a job that they had not intended to take originally. This is followed by an analysis of job mobility among immigrants, and a review of the work experience of immigrant wives.

### Occupational Distribution

Tables 3.1 and 3.2 present data on the occupational distribution of the sample by age and years of schooling. Clearly, most new immigrants had a high degree of skill, and since these skills were easily marketable in Canada most immigrants were able to establish themselves with relative ease, though not always in the occupation of their choice.

The largest single group in the sample, 39 per cent of the total, was in managerial, professional and technical occupations one year after arrival and an increasing number gravitated toward these activities during the next two years under review. These were generally the older, better educated immigrants. Younger immigrants with less schooling were typically in the craft occupations. Service and "other occupations" also had substantial numbers with less than nine years of education, though these immigrants were not limited to any particular age group. During the survey, however, there was a perceptible shift away from lower-skilled jobs, and jobs subject to intermittent periods of unemployment, into activities offering greater security, higher earnings, and better career opportunities.

TABLE 3.1  
OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF IMMIGRANTS BY AGE  
(Percentage distribution)

Age	Age 15-24			Age 25-44			Age 45+			All Ages		
	After One Year	After Three Years										
Occupation												
Managerial, professional, & technical	27	32	43	48	44	47	39	44	39	44	13	14
Clerical & sales	19	21	11	11	13	15	10	9	13	14	10	9
Service & recreation	13	9	9	9	13	15	17	28	17	26	28	26
Craftsmen, etc.	30	29	29	25	17	17	10	7	10	10	10	7
All other	11	9	8	7	13	6	100	100	100	100	100	100
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	34	34	34	34	8	23
Not stated	9	26	8	20	11	11						

TABLE 3.2  
 OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF IMMIGRANTS BY YEARS  
 OF SCHOOLING  
 (Percentage distribution)

Occupation	1-8 Years			9-13 Years			14 Years and Over			Total	
	After One Year	After Three Years	After One Year	After Three Years	After One Year	After Three Years	After One Year	After Three Years	After One Year	After Three Years	
Managerial, professional, & technical	5	6	32	37	81	83	39	44	13	14	
Clerical & sales	6	6	20	20	8	9	2	2	10	10	9
Service & recreation	18	18	10	9	4	4	28	28	26	26	
Craftsmen, etc.	51	55	30	26	5	4	2	2	10	10	7
All other	20	15	8	8	2	2	100	100	100	100	100
<b>TOTAL</b>	100	100	100	100	100	100	4	4	19	19	8
Not stated	13	38	8	22	4	4					23

## Intended Occupation

After one year in Canada, 61 per cent of the immigrants surveyed had jobs in the occupations they intended to follow when they arrived. After two years this proportion was 62 per cent, and by the end of the third year had increased to 69 per cent. The opposite side of the coin, of course, is that after three years in this country almost one-third had not achieved their goal.

The demand for the occupational skill of the immigrants was a significant factor in the kinds of employment they were able to find. The immigrants whose occupations had no demand in Canada had predictably greater problems than others in finding employment in their intended occupation. At the end of six months two-thirds of them were not in their occupation and even after three years one-half were in different occupations. Among immigrants whose skills were required in Canada the proportions not moving into their intended occupation were much smaller, as might be expected. It is somewhat surprising, in fact, to find that even among the immigrants whose occupations were in demand and who had a prearranged job, as many as one in five was not in his intended occupation.

This point suggests that our understanding of the adaptation of immigrants to the Canadian labour market will benefit from a closer look at the immigrants who did not go into their intended occupation. There are many reasons why an immigrant might not enter the occupation of his first choice, and the fact that he takes a different job does not necessarily mean that he is worse off. Indeed, as we shall see below, of every 10 in a different occupation, one was there because he changed his mind after arriving. It should be noted, moreover, that an immigrants conception of his intended occupation may change with the passage of time. In studying the job intentions of immigrants it was found that when an immigrant has been in interesting and well-paid employment for some time, he tends to identify his current occupation as the one he intended to enter when he first came to the country. This tendency may well have influenced the responses reported in the foregoing paragraph.

TABLE 3.3  
PERCENTAGE OF IMMIGRANTS NOT  
IN INTENDED OCCUPATION

Period	Total	Occupations Not in Demand	Occupations in Demand	
			No Prearranged Job	Prearranged Job
After six months	41	66	44	18
After one year	39	58	41	21
After two years	38	61	41	18
After three years	31	54	30	15
3-year average	37	60	39	18

Table 3.4 below shows the reasons given by respondents for not being in their intended occupation. It has already been mentioned that after one year in the country about 10 per cent of them were in a different job by choice. In addition to these respondents, about one of every five said he was prevented from entering his intended occupational field because professional and trade associations or Canadian employers did not recognize or accept his qualifications. Another one-fifth could not get the kind of job they wanted because they lacked "Canadian" experience. Still another 21 per cent simply could not find a job in their intended field. Language was a barrier to intended occupation for 16 per cent of the respondents.

Of those who, in the first year, were not in the job of their choice because of a lack of demand or lack of Canadian experience, almost half had achieved their aim by the third year. At that time language as an obstacle to employment affected less than one-third of those who had this problem in the first year. The number of immigrants who said they were kept from their intended occupation by a refusal to recognize

TABLE 3.4

PERSONS NOT IN INTENDED OCCUPATION,  
BY CAUSE

Cause	Number			Percentage Distribution		
	After One Year	After Two Years	After Three Years	After One Year	After Two Years	After Three Years
All respondents	2,037	2,037	2,037			
Not in intended occupation	935	862	535	100	100	100
Intended job not available	195	190	102	21	22	19
Qualifications not recognized	130	125	92	14	15	17
Qualifications not accepted	77	76	35	8	9	7
Lack of Canadian experience	206	177	102	22	21	19
Language problems	152	116	44	16	13	8
Chose different job	98	103	116	11	12	22
Other reasons	77	75	44	8	8	8

or accept their qualifications dropped by 40 per cent during the period. Respondents who were not in their intended occupation, because they had chosen a different one, increased to 22 per cent of the total in the third year.

The reasons for not being in their intended occupation, as given by respondents of different age groups and levels of education, are presented, in percentage terms, in Tables 3.5 and 3.6. Within the context of the sharp drop in numbers over the three years, the following points may be made:

- Refusal by professional and trade associations or Canadian employers to recognize their qualifications was cited as a reason by a relatively small and rapidly falling proportion of older immigrants; and by an increasing proportion of those with fewer than eight years of education.

- Language, on the other hand, was a relatively greater and more persistent problem among the older immigrants. It was also a serious problem for the less educated, but diminished more rapidly. It was a problem for only a small part of the highly educated, and this proportion had dropped very sharply by the end of three years.
- The proportions of respondents who chose an occupation that differed from their original intention rose sharply in all age and education groups.
- Lack of demand for workers in their occupation was given as a reason by increasing proportions (though, of course, smaller absolute numbers) of the older and the more highly educated immigrants.

## Job Mobility

To get some measure of their employment mobility, the immigrants in the sample were asked at the end of three years how many jobs they had held since they arrived. The results, classified by age, education and occupation, are given in Tables 3.7 to 3.9. They show that almost half of the respondents had held only one position since their arrival, and almost three-quarters had held no more than two jobs. Given the inherent difficulties faced by immigrants in fitting into an employment situation differing more or less from that of their home country, these figures appear to represent a high degree of stability. The stability is accounted for, in part, by the substantial proportion of immigrants in managerial and professional occupations, in which the tendency to change jobs is relatively low.

The propensity to move from one job to another is always greater among the young than the old, but among the immigrants of this sample the difference was not large. A

TABLE 3.5  
 REASONS FOR NOT BEING IN INTENDED OCCUPATION, BY AGE  
 (Percentage distribution)

REASON	Age 15-24			Age 25-44		
	After One Year	After 2 Years	After 3 Years	After One Year	After 2 Years	After 3 Years
Intended job not available	18	24	16	22	21	20
Qualifications not recognized	13	14	17	14	16	19
Qualifications not accepted	10	9	5	7	9	8
Lack of Canadian experience	22	23	18	23	20	19
Language problems	14	9	6	17	15	8
Chose different job	15	13	50	9	11	19
Other reasons	8	8	8	8	8	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 3.5 (Continued)

REASON	Age 45 And Over			Total		
	After One Year	After 2 Years	After 3 Years	After One Year	After 2 Years	After 3 Years
Intended job not available	20	25	24	21	22	19
Qualifications not recognized	12	7	5	14	14	17
Qualifications not accepted	9	6	3	8	9	7
Lack of Canadian experience	17	16	18	22	21	19
Language problems	21	22	18	16	13	8
Chose different job	4	12	11	11	12	22
Other reasons	17	12	21	8	9	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 3.6  
REASONS FOR NOT BEING IN INTENDED OCCUPATION, BY YEARS OF SCHOOLING  
(Percentage distribution)

Reasons	1-8 Years			9-13 Years		
	After One Year	After Two Years	After Three Years	After One Year	After Two Years	After Three Years
Intended job not available	21	22	19	22	21	16
Qualifications not recognized	9	14	15	14	11	16
Qualifications not accepted	5	7	5	10	11	8
Lack of Canadian experience	19	19	19	24	22	20
Language problems	25	21	14	12	11	7
Chose different job	12	7	20	11	17	26
Other reasons	9	10	8	7	7	7
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 3.6 (Continued)

TABLE 3.7

FULL-TIME JOBS, BY AGE, DURING THE  
FIRST THREE YEARS IN CANADA  
(Percentage distribution)

Number of Jobs	15-24	25-44	45 and Over	TOTAL
0	-	-	2	1
1	40	50	53	47
2	24	26	21	25
3	18	13	13	14
4 +	18	11	11	13
TOTAL	100	100	100	100

TABLE 3.8

NUMBER OF FULL-TIME JOBS, BY YEARS OF  
SCHOOLING, DURING THE FIRST THREE YEARS  
IN CANADA  
(Percentage distribution)

Number of Jobs	Years of Schooling			Total
	1-8	9-13	14 & Over	
0	-	-	1	1
1	39	45	59	47
2	25	26	24	25
3	17	15	10	14
4 +	19	14	6	13
TOTAL	100	100	100	100

substantial 64 per cent of those under 25 years had no more than two jobs during the three-year period, against 74 per cent in the 45-and-over groups. As might be expected, the less educated and less skilled immigrants made more occupational shifts than the more educated and more skilled. In both of these comparisons the differences were more marked than the differences between age groups.

TABLE 3.9  
NUMBER OF FULL-TIME JOBS, BY OCCUPATION, AT THE  
END OF THE THIRD YEAR AFTER ARRIVAL  
(Percentage distribution)

## Immigrant Wives

Because of the nature and coverage of the sample, the analysis of the employment experience of the wives of immigrants must be confined to six months, one year and three years after arrival: no information was sought on immigrant wives at the end of the second year. The number of wives whose employment status was reported amounted to 1,106 after six months, 1,161 after one year and 1,307 after three years.

Though the majority of immigrant wives did not work, the proportion who did showed a steady increase over the survey period, rising from 38 per cent to 46 per cent of the total (Table 3.10). The rise in the proportion of wives employed was greatest in Ontario, followed by Quebec. In the Atlantic provinces, on the other hand, the proportion of wives working dropped by almost one-half, perhaps because of higher earnings of husbands in these provinces (Table 3.10). The participation rate of immigrant wives is greater than that of the wives of Canadians in general. Most working wives were in either managerial, professional and technical occupations, or the clerical and sales category (Table 3.11).

TABLE 3.10  
PERCENTAGE OF IMMIGRANT  
WIVES EMPLOYED BY REGION

Region	Employed		
	After 6 Months	After 1 Year	After 3 Years
Atlantic	37	26	21
Quebec	33	42	48
Ontario	42	45	51
Prairies	40	40	43
Pacific	34	32	33
TOTAL	38	42	46

TABLE 3.11  
 OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION  
 OF EMPLOYED IMMIGRANT WIVES, BY REGION,  
 THREE YEARS AFTER ARRIVAL  
 (Percentage distribution)

Occupation	Atlantic	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	Pacific	Total
Managerial, professional & technical	50	37	27	36	26	30
Clerical & sales	50	36	39	25	37	37
Service & recreation		13	20	17	15	18
Craftsmen, etc.	—	11	9	12	11	9
Other	—	3	5	10	11	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	100	100	100	100	100	100
Not stated	—	14	11	5	2	10

TABLE 3.12  
 PERCENTAGE OF WORKING  
 WIVES BY EARNINGS OF THE  
 HUSBAND FIRST AND THIRD  
 YEAR AFTER ARRIVAL\*

Annual Earnings of Husband	Percentage of Wives Who Work	
	1st yr.	3rd yr.
\$0- 4,999	48	57
\$5,000- 9,999	45	52
\$10,000-14,999	19	37
\$15,000 +	7	14
All incomes	41	47

\* There is a slight difference in the percentage of wives working (from Table 3.10) because of differences in response rate.

Table 3.12 shows, for any given earnings group, the number of working wives as a percentage of all immigrant wives with husbands in that earnings group. Clearly, the participation rate of wives was greatest among those whose husbands earned less than \$10,000 per year. The proportion of working wives increased, through time, for each earnings group.

## THE SELF-EMPLOYED IMMIGRANTS

Self-employed immigrants are a group that stand out, not because of their large number – indeed they constitute only five per cent of the sample – but because of their potential economic importance in creating employment opportunities for others. The entrepreneurs in this sample, only 91 in all, employed over 600 people after only three years in Canada.

A limited amount of special information about self-employed immigrants was obtained from the longitudinal survey. In each of the first three questionnaires, which covered the first two years of the life of the immigrant in Canada, the following question was asked:

Are you self-employed? If yes, state the number  
of people working for you.

Some further information was asked in the last questionnaire, completed after three years in Canada. This included information on the date on which the enterprise was established, the industry in which it specialized, and its location. The question on industry failed to provide valid estimates on this important dimension of the self-employed immigrant, but useful information was obtained from the other questions.

TABLE 4.1  
NUMBER OF SELF-EMPLOYED  
IMMIGRANTS

After six months .....	40
After 1 year.....	71
After 2 years .....	91
After 3 years .....	91

It will be seen from Table 4.1 that the immigrants who went into business tended to do so at an early stage of their life in Canada. Almost half of the people who became self-employed during the three years did so in the first six months

and 71 out of the 91 who answered this question became self-employed by the end of their first year in Canada. The rest established their businesses during their second year in Canada.

The term "self-employed" applies to persons whose main earnings were derived from professional or business ventures that they owned and directed either alone or in association with partners. This definition includes a "one-person" business with no employees, as well as a business with paid employees. In some cases, businesses might employ members of the immediate family without paying them a regular salary. These were counted as "one-person" businesses in the survey. Moreover, the income reported for such businesses would be that of the family, rather than an individual.

Table 4.2 shows that the self-employed immigrants came from many countries. As might be expected, the largest numbers were from English-speaking countries, some 28 per cent from Britain and another 13 per cent from the United States. The third largest group, interestingly, is from Hong Kong and Taiwan, with smaller numbers from other countries.

TABLE 4.2  
SELF-EMPLOYED BY  
COUNTRY OF BIRTH

Country	Number
Britain.....	28
U. S. A. ....	13
Hong Kong and Taiwan.....	10
Italy .....	4
France.....	3
India.....	3
Greece.....	2
Yugoslavia.....	2
West Indies.....	2
Other Countries .....	24
Total.....	91

Table 4.3 shows the number of employers by immigration

TABLE 4.3  
THE SELF-EMPLOYED BY IMMIGRATION  
CLASS AND NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AFTER  
THREE YEARS

Number of Employees	Independent Immigrants	Nominated Immigrants	All Self-employed Respondents*
0	21	3	24
1	14	5	19
2	5	2	8
3-5	11	2	15
6-10	4	1	5
11-19	2	1	3
20-49	2	-	2
50-99	-	-	-
100 and over	1	-	1
No answer	10	4	14
TOTAL	70	18	91

\* Includes other Immigration classes.

class and by the number of employees in their establishments. It will be noted that the majority of self-employed immigrants were independent immigrants, but that 18 were in the nominated class. The number of nominated immigrants is more than might have been expected, considering these immigrants have, on average, less education and skill and fewer financial resources.

Most of the businesses, after three years were still fairly small: indeed, only six of the respondents indicated that their firms employed 11 or more persons. But in these years one of the businesses employed over 100 persons.

The intended occupations of immigrants, as expressed in interviews before coming to Canada, show that those who later established businesses had a wide variety of backgrounds. More than a third were professionals or technicians, and an almost equal number were in skilled or other blue-collar occupations. Only two in 10 who became self-employed had indicated they intended to be managers, or otherwise self-employed, before they emigrated (see Table 4.4).

As shown by Table 4.5, a relatively high level of education was a feature of the self-employed immigrant. Among independent immigrants, the average education of the self-employed was 13.7 years, compared with 12.6 years for all independent immigrants in the sample. Among nominated immigrants, the self-employed had an average education of 9.6 years, compared with an average of 8.9 years for all nominated respondents.

TABLE 4.4  
SELF-EMPLOYED IMMIGRANTS BY  
INTENDED OCCUPATION AND FIRST  
OCCUPATION IN CANADA

	Intended Occupation	First Occupation in Canada
Self employed	10	8
Managers	9	7
Technical & professional occupations	34	29
Clerical & sales occupations	6	8
Skilled workers (craftsmen)	20	19
All other blue collar occupations	12	20
TOTAL	91	91

TABLE 4.5  
AVERAGE YEARS OF EDUCATION OF  
IMMIGRANTS BY IMMIGRATION CLASS

Class	Total Sample	Self-Employed
Independent	12.6	13.7
Nominated	8.9	9.6

Within the first six months of their residence, the self-employed immigrants had generated directly more than 200 jobs. At the end of the second six months, 71 respondents were established in their own businesses; 44 of them had no employees, and 27 employed 193 workers. Together they had created 264 new jobs. By the end of the third year, the number of self-employed immigrants had risen to 91 and the total number of newly created jobs had grown to 606.

TABLE 4.6  
EMPLOYMENT CREATED BY  
SELF-EMPLOYED IMMIGRANTS

	After 6 Months	After 1 Year	After 3 Years
Self-employed	40	71	91
Employees	182	193	515
Total jobs	222	264	606

The average income of self-employed immigrants was below that of their wage-earning counterparts during the first year of their stay in Canada but almost doubled in the second year, and by the end of the third year was close to twice the income of all immigrants in the sample (Table 4.7). The fact that many of the professionals in the group (medical doctors, for example) did not start up in business for themselves until their second year in Canada probably accounts for the rather startling rise in incomes of the self-employed.

It was expected that most businesses of the self-employed would be located in Ontario, and indeed, 38 out of the 91 who answered the question did locate in that province. But British Columbia and the Prairie provinces had a fair share of these new business ventures, and it is of interest to note that the largest immigrant employers located their businesses in the Atlantic provinces. Montreal attracted almost all self-employed respondents in the province of Quebec but only half of the respondents in Ontario and in British Columbia settled in Toronto or Vancouver.

TABLE 4.7  
 AVERAGE ANNUAL INCOME REPORTED  
 BY IMMIGRANTS AND CANADIAN CONTROL  
 GROUP, 1970-72

Year	All Immigrants	Self-Employed Immigrants	Canadian Control group
1970	\$ 6,869	\$ 8,870	n. a.
1971	9,096	16,700	\$10,263
1972	10,040	19,200	12,115

TABLE 4.8  
 SELF-EMPLOYED IMMIGRANTS BY  
 INTENDED DESTINATION AND ACTUAL  
 LOCATION OF ENTERPRISE AFTER 3 YEARS

	Intended Residence	Location of Enterprise After 3 Years
Atlantic Provinces	5	5
Quebec	10	8
Ontario	36	37
Prairie Provinces	19	19
British Columbia & Yukon	21	22
Total	91	91
Montreal	8	7
Toronto	16	18
Vancouver	10	15
Total	34	40

## INCOME

The most striking feature of the incomes of Canadian immigrants is their rate of increase. By the end of the first year in Canada, annual family incomes of immigrant households in the sample had increased by 19 per cent over the incomes of the first six months. By the end of the second year average incomes had increased by another 32 per cent and after the third year they had climbed a further 10 per cent.

This latest increase was large enough to keep immigrant families ahead of inflation – as measured by the Consumer Price Index – but it was not as large as the increase in incomes of the Canadian households surveyed as a control group. In 1971 the level of income of the immigrant households in the study was about 89 per cent of the average income of the Canadian control group while in 1972, the income level of immigrant households was only 83 per cent of the control group mean (Table 5.1).

In general, the incomes of smaller households were lower but rose more quickly than the average incomes of the families of five or more. At the end of the third year, average incomes ranged from \$7,279 for the single person to \$12,719 for families of five or more.

The demand for the occupational skill of the immigrant in Canada had a marked effect on his earning power. Immigrants whose intended occupations were not in demand earned at least \$118 less per month than those whose skills were in demand, and close to \$400 less than the immigrants who had made arrangements for a job before emigrating. These margins widened during the first two years of residence, and showed some tendency to diminish only in the third year.

A detailed comparison of earnings (Table 5.3) shows that except for those under 20 years of age, immigrants of all age groups earned less than their Canadian counterparts. In both

TABLE 5.1  
FAMILY INCOME AND HOUSEHOLD SIZE\*

Household Size	First** Six Months (1969/70)	Second** Six Months (1970)	Increase	Second Year (1971)	Increase	Third Year (1972)	Increase
1	\$ 3,990	\$ 4,657	%	\$ 6,427	%	\$ 7,279	%
2	6,640	8,250	17	10,442	27	11,637	13
3	6,320	7,123	24	9,682	36	10,831	11
4	7,630	8,707	13	11,112	28	12,458	12
5 and over	7,706	9,323	14	11,777	26	12,719	8
All households	\$ 5,766	\$ 6,869	21	\$ 9,096	32	\$10,040	10
Control groups***	-	-	19	\$10,263	-	\$12,115	18

\* The average incomes in Tables 5.1, 5.5, and 5.6 show slight variations due to differences in response rates.

\*\* Annual rates

\*\*\* Income data collected only in the third and fourth questionnaires.

TABLE 5.2  
AVERAGE EARNINGS OF IMMIGRANTS  
BY OCCUPATIONAL DEMAND

Immigrants Whose Intended Occupations Were:	Average Monthly Earnings			
	After Six Months	After One Year	After Two Years	After Three Years
Not in demand	\$359	\$378	\$457	\$585
In demand	487	522	603	703
In demand and job arranged	720	780	887	993

groups earnings tended to increase with age up to the late 30s or early 40s and then stabilize or decline.

The variations in income by region in Canada for the immigrant sample do not correspond closely to those of the Canadian control group (Table 5.4). While only a small number of immigrants settled in the Atlantic region, a high proportion of these were professional people, which may account for their high average family income. The lower figure for Ontario probably reflects the choice of that province as the destination for many less qualified immigrants.

On the whole, the mean incomes for immigrants settling in metropolitan areas appear to be lower than the mean for entire regions, with the difference between Montreal and the Province of Quebec being the most marked. These differences seem to persist over the three-year period studied, and suggest that most of the immigrants with lower incomes are located in major metropolitan areas. Among the three largest metropolitan areas, immigrants in Montreal had the lowest incomes, though the difference was small.

Differences in family income between people from different countries appear to persist for at least three years after arrival. In the first year of Canadian residence, Greek,

TABLE 5.3  
AVERAGE ANNUAL EARNINGS FOR DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS,  
IMMIGRANTS AND CONTROL GROUP, 1971-72

Age	1971			1972		
	A Immigrants	B Control Group	A/B	C Immigrants	D Control Group	C/D
15-19	\$4,150	\$3,530		118	\$4,949	\$4,989
20-24	5,856	6,412		91	6,962	7,574
25-29	7,267	8,302		88	8,218	9,135
30-34	7,990	9,364		85	8,700	10,129
35-39	9,640	9,740		99	9,380	10,900
40-44	9,530	10,628		90	10,463	11,848
45-49	8,199	9,754		84	9,742	11,837
50 and over	8,236	8,949		92	9,591	10,595
All Groups	\$7,496	\$8,500		88	\$8,293	\$9,607
						86

Note: Columns A/B and C/D show, for each age group, the average earnings of the immigrants as a percentage of the average for the control group.

TABLE 5.4

AVERAGE FAMILY INCOME FOR  
ECONOMIC REGIONS AND METROPOLITAN  
AREAS

Region	Second Year (1971)	Third Year (1972)
Atlantic	\$10,689	\$12,263
Quebec	9,473	9,856
Ontario	8,734	9,864
Prairie	9,446	10,495
British Columbia	8,676	9,835
Metropolitan Area		
Montreal	8,254	8,913
Toronto	8,379	9,632
Vancouver	8,327	9,515

Italian, Yugoslavian and Chinese immigrants had considerably lower incomes than did immigrants from the other major source countries shown in Table 5.5. This disparity is largely a matter of occupational and educational distribution. The proportions of managers, professionals and technicians were considerably larger among immigrants from Britain and the U.S.A., for example, than among immigrants from other countries. It is noticeable, however, that incomes tended to converge in the second and third year as immigrants became settled, although the spread was still substantial.

### Poverty Among Immigrants

The number of immigrants below the poverty line was relatively small even after their first six months in Canada. In those first six months 22 per cent of the immigrants in the sample had individual or family incomes that placed them in the poverty group, a proportion higher than the average for all Canadians (Table 5.6). But by the end of the second year in Canada only five per cent of the immigrants in the sample

TABLE 5.5  
 TOTAL FAMILY INCOME AND INCREASES 1970-72  
 FOR IMMIGRANTS FROM SELECTED COUNTRIES OF  
 LAST PERMANENT RESIDENCE

Country	First Year (1970)	Second Year (1971)	Increase 1970-71	Third Year (1972)	Increase 1971-72
			%		%
Britain	\$ 8,944	\$10,975	23	\$12,237	12
France	7,048	8,894	26	10,254	15
Germany, Fed. Rep.	6,446	9,229	43	9,396	2
Greece	3,761	5,767	53	6,628	15
Italy	3,923	5,316	36	6,457	21
Portugal	5,394	7,287	35	8,125	12
Yugoslavia	3,853	6,600	71	8,597	30
Hong Kong and Taiwan	4,346	6,243	44	6,758	8
India	5,372	7,603	42	9,056	19
Philippines	4,746	6,390	35	7,564	18
Australasia	10,031	12,038	20	13,849	15
U. S. A.	11,172	13,228	18	13,992	6
West Indies	4,924	6,742	37	7,510	11
Other	5,701	7,994	40	9,454	18
All	\$ 6,897	\$ 9,101	32	\$10,111	11

were below the poverty line, and by the end of the third year the number had fallen to four per cent. During the same period about 21 per cent of all Canadians and 17 per cent of Canadians under 65 (a group more closely comparable to immigrants), had incomes that placed them below the poverty line.<sup>1</sup>

Information provided by the sample immigrants after the first half-year makes it possible to determine roughly the extent to which poverty resulted from unemployment or employment in low-paying jobs. It appears that low-wage jobs were the major cause of low incomes for 73 per cent of immigrants in the poverty group (see Table 5.7). In the second and third years of residence, however, the proportion whose poverty was the result of unemployment steadily increased, roughly in step with the longer duration of their unemployment. Difficult as this was for the immigrants affected, it represented a diminishing social problem because the number of low-income immigrants was dropping rapidly.

To the extent that income is an indication of the adaptation process, the immigrants in the sample, as a group, have made a successful transition to their new environment. Their incomes increased rapidly and the low-income proportion was far below that of the Canadian population. Of course, income is no measure of the immigrant's social adaptation, and even as an economic indicator it has deficiencies. It takes no account, for example, of the immigrant's expenditures, which are likely to be especially heavy during the early years. Nor does it show the immigrant's assets, another important factor in his economic condition. But the rate of increase in income is certainly a useful measure of the immigrant's economic progress and an indicator of the ease with which non-economic problems may be met. On this score the record of the immigrant sample was high, at least during the first two years.

---

<sup>1</sup>A series of "poverty lines" for individuals and families of different size was developed by Statistics Canada, based on its 1960 survey of family expenditures (J.R. Podoluk, *Incomes of Canadians*, Statistics Canada, 1968). These poverty lines were updated for each survey year on the basis of the Consumer Price Index. The figures for 1972 ranged from \$2,110 for a single person to \$5,622 for a family of five persons or more.

TABLE 5.6  
 NUMBERS AND AVERAGE INCOMES OF  
 IMMIGRANTS IN SAMPLE WHO WERE BELOW  
 THE POVERTY LINE

	First Six Months (1969-70)	Second Six Months (1970)	Second Year (1971)	Third Year (1972)
Total households	456	264	103	82
Per cent of Sample	22%	13%	5%	4%
Individuals	164	77	37	34
Family heads	292	187	66	48
Independent	192	108	52	39
Nominated	224	138	42	36
Others	40	18	9	7
Average family income for people under the poverty line	\$2, 216*	\$2, 567*	\$2, 724	\$ 2, 301
Average family income of Total Sample	\$5, 770*	\$6, 877*	\$9, 101	\$10, 062

\* Annual basis

TABLE 5.7  
CAUSE OF POVERTY AMONG IMMIGRANTS

	Second Six Months (1970)	Second Year (1971)	Third Year (1972)
A. Low Wages*			
Number of immigrants	192	53	34
Average weeks of unemployment:	4.2	7.0	5.9
B. High Unemployment**			
Number of immigrants	72	50	48
Average weeks of unemployment	11.5	23.7	27.9
C. Percentage in poverty because of Unemployment	$\frac{B}{A + B}$ 27	49	59

\* Immigrants whose annual income, based on their earnings while employed, was below the poverty line.

\*\* Immigrants whose weekly earnings were high enough to put them above the poverty line had they been fully employed.



## HOUSING

As well as investigating the incomes of immigrants, the longitudinal survey also sought to provide information on expenditure patterns. So far the response has been examined only for expenditures on housing.

Most of the following analysis of housing costs is in terms of the proportion of income spent on housing rather than the actual dollar cost of the accommodation. Obviously the proportion of income spent on housing will vary with income. Just as there are certain minimum housing needs, there is a minimum cost, and people with low incomes usually spend a relatively high proportion of their income on housing. Those who are better off can afford more than the necessary minimum and have an element of choice in how much they actually spend.

The proportion of incomes spent on housing decreases quite sharply as income rises. A figure of 25 per cent of gross income is usually used as a level beyond which people are thought to be over-extending themselves (it is the figure usually used by lending institutions when granting mortgages). A lot of Canadians, particularly low-income people, do nevertheless pay more than that for their housing and the study shows that many low-income immigrants do so too. This point is illustrated in the Table 6.1. It should be noted that the response rate on this question was considerably lower among low-income than other respondents, so that less reliance can be placed on the results from this group.

The burden of housing costs on immigrants fell considerably, from 37 per cent of incomes, on average, to 23 per cent after three years in the country (Table 6.2). The combination of low initial incomes and a tight housing market meant that immigrants found accommodation a considerable problem. By the end of a year the burden had eased somewhat, and after two years all sizes of household were at or below the 25-per-cent mark.

TABLE 6.1  
PERCENTAGE OF FAMILY INCOME SPENT  
ON HOUSING, 1972

Income Range (Dollars)	Housing Cost as a Percentage of Family Income	
	Immigrants	Control Group
0- 5, 000	44	45
5, 000-10, 000	23	20
10, 000-15, 000	17	17
15, 000-20, 000	16	14
over 20, 000	13	11
All Groups	23	18

TABLE 6.2  
PERCENTAGE OF INCOME SPENT ON HOUSING  
BY IMMIGRANTS, BY HOUSEHOLD SIZE

Household Size	After Six Months (1969-70)	After One Year (1970)	After Two Years (1971)	After Three Years (1972)
1	40	25	22	25
2	29	24	22	22
3	36	30	22	23
4	41	29	23	25
5 and over	36	29	23	22
All households	37	27	22	23

In 1972 inflation caught up with the immigrants, and their housing costs rose faster than their incomes for all except the larger households and people in boarding houses (Table 6.3). Occupiers of rented houses were hit hardest, but they nevertheless paid less of their income than those in other kinds of accommodation. House-owners also saw their costs rise significantly, but with an average income of \$13,656, about 42 per cent higher than the renters, they were in a

TABLE 6.3  
PERCENTAGE OF INCOME SPENT ON HOUSING  
AND AVERAGE INCOME, BY TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION

	After Six Months (1969-70)	After Two Years (1971)	After Three Years (1972)	Average Family Income 1972	
				Immigrants	Control Group
Boarding house	34	21	19	\$6,025	\$7,510
Apartment	37	23	24	9,155	10,451
Rented house	50	19	22	9,620	10,157
Own house	28	24	25	13,656	13,696
Other	23	17	21	7,825	11,095
All types	37	22	23	—	—
Control group				18	
All types					

better position to cope with the change. (The actual cost reported by house-owners is smaller than the true housing cost, however, because people do not include the cost of the down payment — usually not less than 10 per cent — or items such as maintenance, which are included in the price of rented accommodation. Nevertheless, they are partly insulated from the effects of inflation once they have bought their houses.) It is clear that the type of housing occupied by both immigrants and the control group is at least partly dependent on income, though there are differences between the two groups. Immigrants occupying rented houses have a higher average income than those in apartments; for the control group that situation is reversed. Table 6.4 suggests that immigrants' satisfaction with rented houses and apartments are rather similar, so that the income difference may be partly explained by the fact that the lower-income immigrants are more concentrated in the major metropolitan areas where more apartments are located.

TABLE 6.4  
VIEWS ABOUT ACCOMMODATION AFTER THREE YEARS  
BY TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION  
(Percentage distribution)

Degree of Satisfaction	Boarding House	Apartment	Rented House	Own House
Very satisfied	28	29	27	37
Satisfied	48	41	42	47
Little dissatisfied	15	19	18	11
Very dissatisfied	9	11	13	5
Total	100	100	100	100
No answer	8	3	3	2

Note: Figures are the percentage of people in each type of accommodation who expressed the different levels of satisfaction.

Another factor here is that even after three years in Canada the immigrants still seem to be influenced by the

TABLE 6.5  
TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION, BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH  
(After 3 Years)

County of Birth	Boarding House	Apartment	Rented House	Own House	Other	Total
Britain	4	37	18	37	4	100
France	-	66	9	23	2	100
Germany, Fed. Rep.	10	44	4	40	2	100
Greece	27	50	15	8	-	100
Italy	35	20	16	25	4	100
Portugal	10	30	23	29	8	100
Yugoslavia	20	30	10	34	6	100
Hong Kong and Taiwan	21	26	25	25	3	100
India	10	50	9	29	2	100
Philippines	18	58	14	9	1	100
Australasia	2	61	16	11	10	100
United States	1	24	12	46	17	100
West Indies	7	71	7	12	3	100
Other	13	53	8	23	3	100
All	11	45	13	27	4	100

Note: Figures are the percentage of immigrants from each country who were living in the different types of accommodation in 1972.

types of accommodation characteristics of their home country (Table 6.5). This is most evident in the case of people from the more developed countries such as Britain, France, Germany, and the U.S. Immigrants from the poorer countries have a rather higher rate of home ownership than would be expected from a consideration of income alone. This may be partly due to a desire for security and partly because of the "extended family" style of living which enables the cost to be spread over a large number of people and is more easily accommodated in privately owned houses.

The progression toward more stable (and higher status) forms of tenure is seen in Table 6.6. The proportion of immigrants in their own homes rose rapidly, but after three years it was still only half that of the control group; the immigrants evidently will not reach the position of the control group for some years to come. The main impediment is probably the difficulty experienced by the immigrant in building up sufficient savings for the necessary down payment for house purchase in a period of rapidly rising prices.

TABLE 6.6  
TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION  
(Percentage distribution)

Accommodation	After Six Months (1969-70)	After Two Years (1971)	After Three Years (1972)	Control Group (1972)
Boarding house	16	15	11	3
Apartment	48	48	45	25
Rented house	17	14	13	11
Own house	7	18	27	54
Other	12	5	4	7
Total	100	100	100	100

Figures are the percentage of Immigrants or control group members in each type of accommodation.

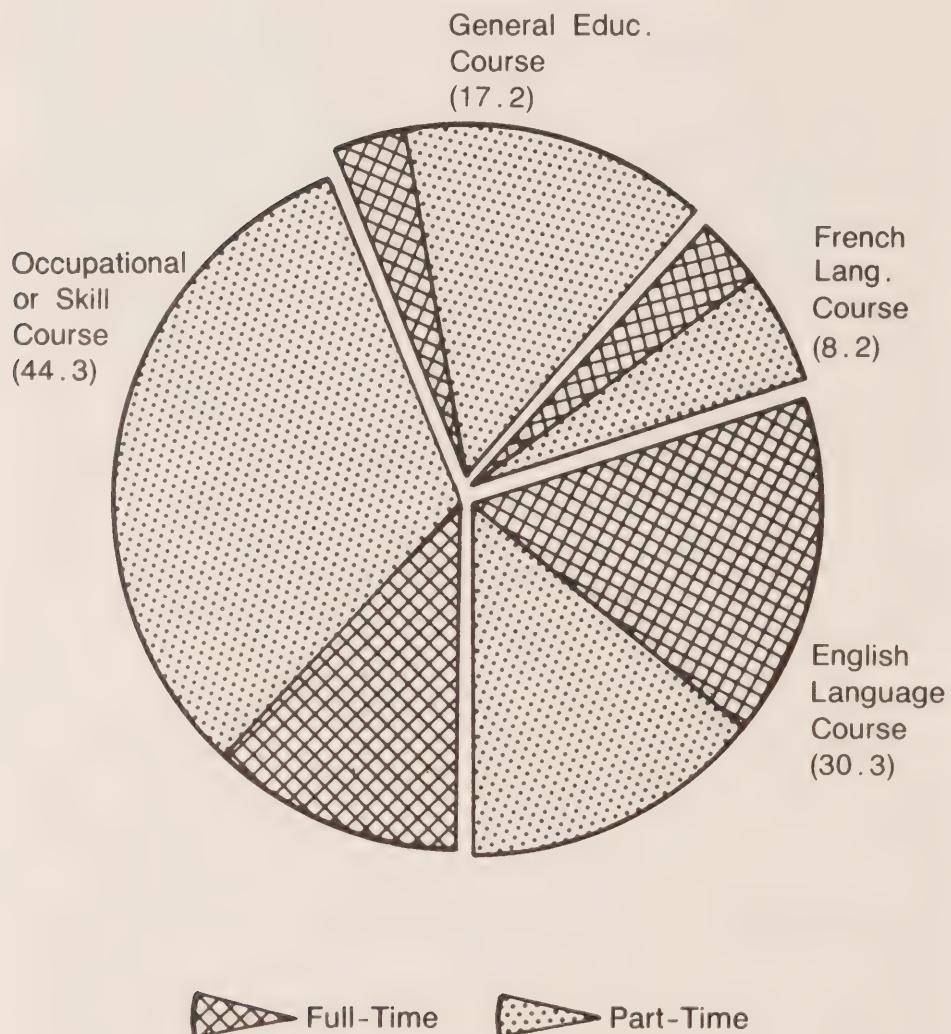
## EDUCATIONAL COURSES AND TRAINING

Many immigrants discover, on arrival in Canada, that their educational qualifications or their knowledge of Canada's official languages are not good enough to enable them to obtain and retain the type of employment they would like to have. A large number therefore try to upgrade their technical, language or general knowledge, or acquire new knowledge and skills. During their first three years in this country almost 50 per cent of all immigrants in the sample took educational courses or some form of training. Approximately 16 per cent of those who did follow courses attended more than one type. It should be noted that the courses referred to in this study are only part-time or short-duration courses, most of which are financed under the Canada Manpower Training Program. Those attending university, college or school full-time (except on language and skill-training courses) are not included in the study.

Both independent and nominated immigrants participated in training to approximately the same extent: 50 per cent of independent and 45 per cent of nominated immigrants. Apart from immigrants over 45 years of age, who were less inclined to take courses, immigrants in the various age groups attended in about the same proportions. Independent and nominated immigrants in clerical and sales occupations, as well as nominated immigrants in managerial, technical and professional occupations, attended courses, on a proportional basis, more frequently than other immigrants.

A distribution of the types of courses and training taken by immigrants is provided in Chart 7.1. As indicated, occupational or skill courses were most favoured, followed by English language courses, general educational courses, and French language courses. The proportion of part-time and full-time attendance for each type of course is also shown. For all courses combined, one third were on a full-time basis.

CHART 7.1  
DISTRIBUTION OF COURSES AND TRAINING TAKEN  
BY IMMIGRANTS, 1969-72



## Occupational or Skill Courses

Occupational training is primarily undertaken to acquire information, techniques and skills needed to perform the work in a specific occupation. As previously mentioned, occupational or skill courses were the most popular, accounting for approximately 45 per cent of all courses taken. Slightly more than half of all immigrants took them, about 25 per cent on a full-time basis. For each nominated immigrant in an occupational or skill course, there were three independent immigrants enrolled. Immigrants in the age groups 15-24 and 25-44 accounted for 33 and 64 per cent, respectively, of the courses taken. Those in managerial, technical and professional occupations accounted for about half of the courses while those in sales, clerical and craft occupations largely accounted for the remainder.

## General Educational Courses

General educational courses are largely followed to acquire knowledge or culture in the interest of self-improvement, without necessarily having a specific occupational objective in mind. These courses represent about 17 per cent of all courses attended by the immigrants in the survey. Thus one in every six immigrants who acquired some type of training during the period of the study took a general education course, mostly on a part-time basis.

As with the occupational and skill courses, independent immigrants predominated. About two-thirds of all immigrants were in the 25-44 age group, with the remaining third in the 14-24 age group. Immigrants in managerial, technical and professional occupations accounted for almost 60 per cent of the total, followed by those in clerical and sales occupations.

## Language Courses

A knowledge of one or both of Canada's official languages is a primary factor contributing to successful adaptation in this country. This is especially true of immigrants who enter

the labour force. Many immigrants who enter Canada either have French or English as their mother tongue, or have a command of one or both of these languages. For those who do not, language skills are acquired or improved either informally, through contact with French- or English-speaking people and self-study, or formally through the attendance at language courses.

Almost half of the 4,403 respondents to the first questionnaire who reported their mother tongue indicated either French or English as their first language. Of these, 225 were French-speaking, 1,898 were English-speaking, while the remaining 2,280 had a variety of mother tongues. Table 7.1 shows the proficiency in English and French of immigrants whose mother tongue was other than these. Only about 23 per cent of these immigrants had a fair to fluent knowledge of French, while nearly 64 per cent had this degree of fluency in English.

TABLE 7.1  
LANGUAGE FLUENCY OF IMMIGRANTS  
OF OTHER THAN FRENCH OR ENGLISH  
MOTHER TONGUE AFTER SIX MONTHS  
(Percentage distribution)

Degree of Fluency	French	English
Fluent	7	20
Good	7	21
Fair	9	23
Poor	17	25
None	60	11
Total	100	100

One-tenth of those who replied in the affirmative to the education question after three years indicated that they had taken French language training, of which about 40 per cent attended on a full-time basis. Nearly all lived in Quebec and two out of three were independent immigrants. About 35 per cent of the immigrants who took courses took English language training, and approximately 50 per cent of these

attended on a full-time basis. A somewhat larger proportion of nominated immigrants participated in English language courses than did independent immigrants.

The distribution of language training by age group is almost the same as it was for occupational and skill courses. Immigrants in the age groups 15-24 and 25-44 accounted for 32 and 63 per cent, respectively, of the courses taken. There is no appreciable difference in the proportion by age group who took French as opposed to English.

In terms of occupations, there are significant differences between the distribution of immigrants who took French language training and the distribution of immigrants who followed English language courses. Table 7.2 shows that immigrants who studied the French language were more concentrated in managerial, technical and professional occupations and clerical and sales occupations than were those who studied the English language. On the other hand, the proportion of immigrants in the craftsmen group who took English language courses was much higher than the proportion of those who followed French language courses.

## Language Attainment

To get some idea of their progress in language skills, all immigrants were asked to indicate the degree of their fluency in Canada's official languages, both at the time of their arrival in Canada and after three years of residence. The results are shown in Tables 7.3 and 7.4.

Of those who lived in Quebec and undertook French language training, only 23 per cent had a fair to good knowledge of French when they arrived; none were fluent. By the end of the third year, 60 per cent were fair to fluent and less than three per cent reported no knowledge of French. Those who did not take French language training had, on average, a higher degree of fluency both on arrival and after three years in Quebec. Their average degree of improvement was, naturally, less marked than those who took language courses.

TABLE 7.2

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF FRENCH  
AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING BY  
OCCUPATIONAL GROUP, 1969-1972

Occupation	French	English
Managerial, professional and technical	45	22
Clerical and sales	22	11
Service and recreation	13	15
Craftsmen	13	38
Other	7	14
Total	100	100

Substantial improvement in English-language knowledge was also made by immigrants whose mother tongue is not English. For those that followed English language courses, the proportion with a fair to fluent command of English increased from about 61 per cent to 90 per cent after three years in Canada; by this time, less than one per cent reported no knowledge of English. As with the French language, immigrants who did not undertake English-language training after arrival in Canada had a higher degree of fluency to begin with than those who did. The proportion of these immigrants with a fair to fluent knowledge increased from 75 per cent in 1969 to 89 per cent in 1972. Approximately 58 per cent of those who took English-language training reported a significant improvement in their command of English, as opposed to 41 per cent who did not take language courses.

TABLE 7.3

FRENCH LANGUAGE FLUENCY OF IMMIGRANTS IN QUEBEC  
 WHOSE MOTHER TONGUE WAS NOT FRENCH  
 (Percentage distribution)

Degree of Fluency	Followed French Course		Did Not Follow French Course		Total	
	First Six Months	Third Year	First Six Months	Third Year	First Six Months	Third Year
Fluent	—	3	21	23	15	17
Good	5	20	7	11	7	13
Fair	18	37	21	22	20	27
Poor	56	37	19	31	30	33
None	21	3	32	13	28	10
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 7.4

ENGLISH LANGUAGE FLUENCY OF IMMIGRANTS WHOSE  
 MOTHER TONGUE WAS NOT ENGLISH  
 (Percentage distribution)

Degree Of Fluency	Followed English Course		Did Not Follow English Course		Total	
	First Six Months	Third Year	First Six Months	Third Year	First Six Months	Third Year
Fluent	2	10	28	37	21	30
Good	19	41	26	31	24	33
Fair	40	39	21	21	26	26
Poor	32	9	16	9	21	9
None	7	1	9	2	8	2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100



## RESIDENTIAL MOBILITY

Of 2,037 immigrants in the sample, 2,000 immigrants reported on their change of residence during their first three years in Canada. Residential mobility of immigrants is an important facet of adjustment of immigrants to Canadian society. In their first year, 62 per cent of the immigrants reported changing their residence, mainly within the municipality in which they originally settled. By the second year this had declined to 45 per cent and by the third year to 39 per cent. During the three years of the Survey, 69 per cent of all respondents moved within the same city, town or village, 23 per cent moved to a different city, and eight per cent moved from one province to another.

Immigrant workers were twice as mobile as the average Canadian resident; nearly 13 per cent of the respondents in the sample had changed municipalities during the first year of their residence, compared with 7 percent of the Canadian population of 20 years and over who moved between October 1964 and October 1965.<sup>1</sup> This is not surprising because immigrants are in a situation conducive to higher mobility. Entering a city generally not known to them, their first shelter may often be rented temporarily until they start to work. The location of more permanent accommodation will be influenced by its price, its nearness to their working place (at that time only few immigrants would own cars), and its immediate availability. As time goes on they may find a different job in the same or in another city and may move, perhaps again to temporary accommodation.

The average number of moves made by immigrants during the three years of residence was 1.9. This average was identical for both the males and the females in the sample. At the end of three years 15 per cent of all respondents had not

<sup>1</sup>May Nickson, *Geographic Mobility in Canada, October 1964 to October 1965*, Statistics Canada, 1969.

moved, one-third of them had moved once, and about one-quarter had moved twice. The remaining 27 per cent had moved three times or more.

TABLE 8.1  
RESIDENTIAL MOBILITY OF  
IMMIGRANTS DURING THEIR  
THREE YEARS OF RESIDENCE

Number of Moves	Percentage of Sample
0 moves	15
1 move	32
2 moves	26
3 moves	15
4 moves	6
5 or more moves	6
All respondents	100
Average number of moves	1.9

## Age and Mobility

The relationship between age and mobility is complex and inter-related with other factors that are only to some extent a function of age. Several studies on geographic mobility have established that there is an inverse relationship between mobility and age.<sup>2</sup> For the Canadian population it was found that rates of internal migration tended to be high for people in their twenties, decreasing after the age of 30.<sup>3</sup> The findings with respect to respondents in the longitudinal study were similar. Respondents between the ages of 15 to 24 years moved more often (on the average 2.2 times) than respondents over the age of 40 (on the average 1.5 times).

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>3</sup> Isabelle B. Anderson, *Internal Migration in Canada, 1921-1961*, Economic Council of Canada, Staff Study Number 13, Ottawa, 1966.

TABLE 8.2  
 AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL MOBILITY  
 RATES OF IMMIGRANTS, BY AGE GROUP,  
 DURING THEIR THREE-YEAR PERIOD OF  
 RESIDENCE

Age Group	Average Number of Moves
15-24 years	2.2
25-39 years	1.9
40-49 years	1.5
50 and over	1.5
Total	1.9

As can be seen from Table 8.2 age had no bearing on the average number of moves. This was probably due to the fact that all respondents, old and young alike, had only three years of residence in Canada. After longer residence a spread in the average number of moves by age groups would probably develop.

### Mobility by Immigration Classes

On average, independent immigrants were slightly more mobile than nominated immigrants (Table 8.3). This is to be expected since nominated immigrants are able to rely on the knowledge of their nominators in choosing the location of their home, and for family reasons some might be less inclined to move away from their relations even though family relationship was, for the nominated immigrants, not as strong a motive for emigrating as might be expected (see Chapter 13). In addition, the higher educational and skill levels of independent immigrants enable them to be more mobile than nominated immigrants.

TABLE 8.3

AVERAGE NUMBER OF MOVES OF IMMIGRANTS  
BY IMMIGRATION CATEGORY DURING THEIR  
THREE-YEAR PERIOD OF RESIDENCE

	Average Number of Moves
Independent Immigrants.....	2.0
Nominated Immigrants .....	1.7
Total .....	1.9

### Intended Destination and Actual Residence

Two important findings of the survey are that proportionally few immigrants (eight per cent) moved from one province to another, and that most immigrants went to and stayed in the area of their intended destination. Of those immigrants who intended to live in Montreal, Toronto or Vancouver, 94 per cent were still in those cities after three years. About 50 per cent of all immigrants originally intended to settle in one of these three metropolitan areas, and at the end of three years slightly over 50 per cent were in these areas. The mobility into and from these areas was very low (about six per cent of all respondents moved into or out of these areas). The inter-city mobility of those respondents who had not settled in one of the three largest metropolitan areas was somewhat greater.

Table 8.4 shows a definite pattern of mobility among immigrants. The lower-income regions seem to have considerably less ability to hold immigrants than the more prosperous regions. Originally only 2.5 per cent of immigrants in our sample intended to settle in the Atlantic provinces. But even of this small proportion, only three-quarters were living in that region after three years. Quebec and the Prairie provinces, each originally the destination of about 15 per cent of the sample, held between 85 to 90 per cent of immigrants who originally settled in those regions. On the other hand, Ontario and British Columbia became the residences of more immigrants than originally intended to settle there. These statistics are net figures; thus they do not reveal the size of the movement in each direction.

TABLE 8.4  
INTENDED DESTINATION AND ACTUAL RESIDENCE  
AFTER THREE YEARS

Area	Intended Destination of Respondents	Actual Residence of Respondents
	%	%
All respondents	100	100
Atlantic Provinces	3	2
Quebec	15	13
Ontario	54	57
Prairie Provinces	16	14
British Columbia	12	14
Montreal	12	11
Toronto	30	34
Vancouver	8	9

The three major metropolitan areas each have more attracting or holding power than the whole of the provinces in which they are situated, although Montreal, like the province of Quebec as a whole, lost more immigrants in the sample than it gained by migration from other areas. What is strikingly apparent from the table, however, is the attractiveness of Toronto to immigrants. This fact is well known, but the dimensions of it may not be. Three out of every 10 immigrants had originally intended to settle in Toronto; in fact, after three years of residence in Canada, over one-third (34 per cent) were there. The power of that city to attract immigrants extends to many immigrants who originally settle in other parts of Canada. The main reasons are the continued economic vitality of the city, and its reputation as a city of immigrants where strong ethnic communities exist and where the immigrant can maintain some of his own customs among compatriots and thus feel more at home. It should be noted here, however, that immigrants who settled in Montreal expressed greater satisfaction with many economic and social aspects of life than their Toronto counterparts, and those who settled in Vancouver were more satisfied on all counts (see Chapter 12).



## Part 2

### SOCIAL ADAPTATION OF IMMIGRANTS

Social adjustment is a process by which a person or a group acquires the ability to fit into a given environment. Immigrants have to adjust by harmonizing with the physical environment, material living conditions and life styles, and by adopting standards of conduct, or at least certain cultural values, of the environment in which they are going to live.

It is possible to measure to what extent a given group of immigrants, after having lived in a new environment for some time, has adjusted with respect to certain criteria, and in what measure this adjustment has increased with time. Part 2 has four Chapters. The first two, Chapters 9 and 10, examine how immigrants view their new social situations and how "accepted" they feel. Chapter 11 looks at various behaviour patterns that may be connected with the preservation of the immigrant's cultural identity or his cultural integration. Chapter 12 discusses the factors that influence the immigrant's satisfaction with the living conditions he encounters in Canada.



## THE IMMIGRANT'S SOCIAL POSITION

The immigrant who settles in Canada knows before emigrating, or soon after his arrival here, that things are not the same as they were at home. Climate, language, work, eating habits, cultural values and behaviour patterns are all different in some degree. Many aspects of the life he knew are different here, and he must adjust to them.

One of the more important aspects of the immigrant's adjustment is his relationship to family, friends, acquaintances and neighbours. He was "somebody" to those he left behind, but for the time being he has lost some of that personality.

Since the loss in social status may have serious repercussions on the immigrant's adjustment, it was considered important to investigate his own perception of his social position in the new environment. After one year the immigrants were therefore asked:

Compared with your former country, do you feel  
that your social position in the community  
has:

- risen
- remained the same
- fallen

The response rate to this question was very high, 98 per cent. Over all, it was found that 31 per cent of the immigrants believed that their social position had improved. Almost half saw no difference and 20 per cent felt that it was lower than in their former country.

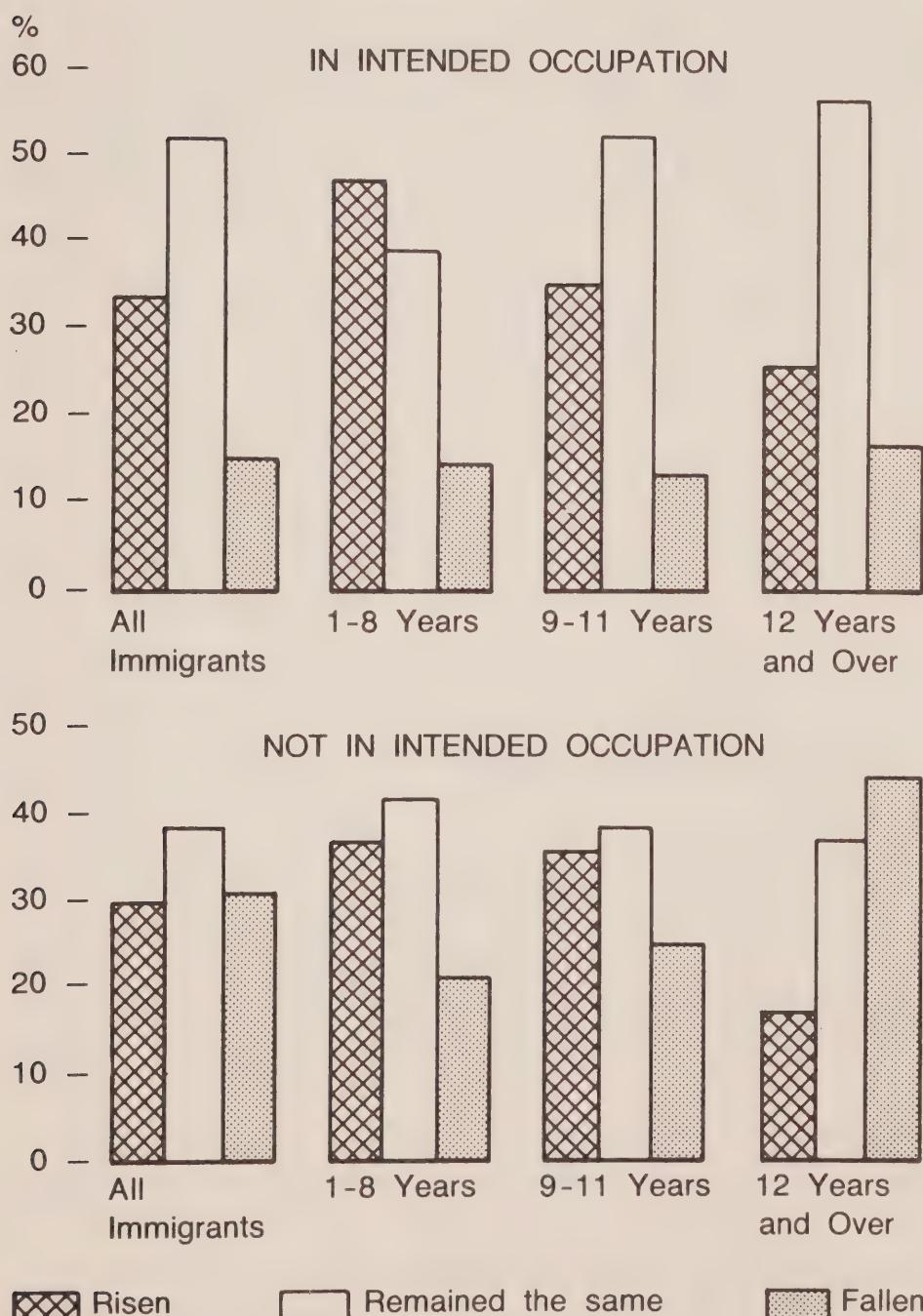
It is to be expected that the immigrant's view of his social status will differ according to whether he is working in his intended occupation or not. Analysis of the replies shows that among those not working in their chosen occupation, 31 per

cent believed that their social position had fallen in comparison with their position in their home country. Only 15 per cent of those working in their intended occupation felt this way.

Similarly, the proportion who felt that their social position had deteriorated was twice as high among the unemployed as it was among the employed. There was also a direct relation between the feeling of diminished social status and the number of weeks the immigrant was unemployed during his first year in Canada. And the number who felt that their social position had deteriorated was four times as great among those very dissatisfied with employment opportunities or salary levels as it was among those who were satisfied with these conditions.

The relationship between the immigrant's level of education and his perception of social position is illustrated in Chart 9.1. The feeling that social position had deteriorated was greatest among the more highly educated, whether they were working in their intended occupation or not, though more pronounced among the latter. University-trained persons not working in their intended occupation felt the loss of status particularly sharply.

CHART 9.1  
 PERCEIVED RELATIVE SOCIAL POSITION  
 IN CANADIAN COMMUNITY AFTER ONE YEAR  
 BY EDUCATION AND WHETHER EMPLOYED  
 IN INTENDED OCCUPATION





## COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE

One of the major factors in the social adjustment of immigrants is their estimate of the acceptance they receive from individuals in their community. The longitudinal study tried to measure this acceptance on the basis of the respondent's perception of it. At the end of each of the first three years of residence in Canada, the following question was asked:

With regard to your acceptance by the people in  
the community in which you live, do you  
feel you are:

- very well accepted
- generally accepted
- treated with indifference
- not accepted at all

It is striking how little these levels of acceptance varied from one year to the next; the level of acceptance of this group of immigrants was apparently established from their first year of residence in Canada and remained the same during the two following years. Thus in Table 10.1 those who felt very well accepted represent 40 to 43 per cent of the respondents, and those who felt generally accepted accounted for about 50 per cent. Those who sensed indifference represented from 7 to 9 per cent and those who did not feel accepted at all represented less than 1 per cent. On average, 91 per cent of the immigrants felt generally very well accepted by their community.

Slight variations occurred in various parts of the country, the immigrants' feeling of acceptance being greatest in British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec, in that order.

It was found that the fact of having or not having a job had an important influence on the immigrant's perception of his acceptance by the community, particularly in the first

TABLE 10.1

IMMIGRANTS' PERCEPTION OF COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE,  
BY LENGTH OF RESIDENCE  
(Percentage distribution)

Degree of Acceptance	After One Year	After Two Years	After Three Years	Average
Very well accepted	40	41	43	41
Generally accepted	50	49	49	50
Treated with indifference	9	9	7	8
Not accepted at all	1	1	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100
No response	1	4	2	2

year after his arrival. Later on the difference in the views of these two groups tended to disappear; after three years those who felt very well accepted in the community represented 40 per cent of the unemployed, compared with 43 per cent of the employed.

Another factor modifying the immigrant's perception of community acceptance was whether or not he was working in the occupation of his choice. A comparison between respondents working and not working in the occupation of their choice shows that by the end of the third year 47 per cent of the former, against 36 per cent of the latter, felt very well accepted. The variation from year to year was very small (see Table 10.3).

Acceptance is affected by the environment in which the immigrant lives. At the end of the first year, the following question was asked:

Are the people living in your area mostly:

- Canadian born
- from your former country
- from different countries

TABLE 10.2  
 IMMIGRANTS' PERCEPTION OF COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE  
 BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS  
 (Percentage distribution)

Degree of Acceptance	After 1 Year		After 2 Years		After 3 Years	
	Employed	Unemployed	Employed	Unemployed	Employed	Unemployed
Very well accepted	41	26	41	36	43	40
Generally accepted	49	56	50	50	49	46
Treated with indifference	9	15	8	11	7	12
Not accepted at all	1	3	1	3	1	2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
No response	1	1	3	3	2	3

TABLE 10.3  
 IMMIGRANTS' PERCEPTION OF COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE  
 BY WHETHER OR NOT IMMIGRANTS WERE WORKING  
 IN THE OCCUPATION OF THEIR CHOICE  
 (Percentage distribution)

Degree of Acceptance	After 1 Year		After 2 Years		After 3 Years	
	Chosen Occupation	Other Occupation	Chosen Occupation	Other Occupation	Chosen Occupation	Other Occupation
Very well accepted	44	33	45	34	47	36
Generally accepted	49	53	49	51	48	50
Treated with indifference	7	13	6	14	4	13
Not accepted at all	0	1	0	1	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
No response	1	1	3	4	2	3

Table 10.4 shows that 53 per cent of the immigrants believed they were living in a community composed mainly of Canadians, 5 per cent in an environment consisting of people from their country of origin, and 42 per cent among people from different countries. The table also shows that, as one would expect, the respondents felt more accepted among their own people than elsewhere. Of the respondents living among people from their own country, as opposed to those living among Canadians or people from other countries, from 10 to 20 per cent more felt very well accepted. But it is encouraging to find that if one combines the respondents who felt very well accepted or generally accepted the differences in perceived attitudes of communities tend to diminish. The respondents who sensed that they were either very well or generally accepted constituted from 88 to 93 per cent of the total, depending on the type of community they were in.

Finally, Table 10.5 shows that persons who had the greatest degree of satisfaction with employment opportunities were much more likely (64 per cent) to feel very well accepted in the community, than those who were very dissatisfied with employment opportunities (27 per cent).

TABLE 10.4  
 PERCEPTION OF COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE AFTER ONE YEAR, BASED  
 ON ETHNIC ORIGINS OF RESIDENTS IN THE COMMUNITY  
 (Percentage distribution)

Degree of Acceptance	Native Canadians	People from Same Country	People from Other Countries of Origin	All Immigrants
Very well accepted	43	53	34	40
Generally accepted	47	40	54	50
Treated with indifference	9	6	11	9
Not accepted at all	1	1	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100
Percentage of total	53	5	42	100

TABLE 10.5  
 IMMIGRANTS' PERCEPTION OF COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE  
 IN RELATION TO THEIR SATISFACTION WITH  
 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES  
 (Percentage distribution)

Degree of Acceptance	Very Satisfied	Moderately Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	All Immigrants
Very well accepted	64	39	30	27	41
Generally accepted	32	54	58	53	50
Treated with indifference	4	7	11	18	8
Not accepted at all	0	0	1	2	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100
Percentage of Total	23	39	25	13	100
No response	2	2	2	3	2



## CULTURAL IDENTITY

This chapter examines the forms of behaviour relating to the preservation or change in the immigrant's cultural identity after he arrives in Canada. The fact that members of an ethnic group tend to marry persons from their own country increases the likelihood that their own culture will be preserved. Clearly, if they continue speaking their native language at home and have a feeling of allegiance to their country of origin, the tendency will be the same. Their command of English and/or French and the improvement in their knowledge of them over time are also examined, though the influence of this aspect on cultural identity is less certain.

### Ethnic Origin of Spouse

The ethnic origin of the spouse of an immigrant who marries after coming to Canada is one indication of integration into the Canadian way of life. This information was obtained from questions asked at the end of the second and third years after the immigrants' arrival:

If you married since you came to Canada, did  
you marry:

- a Canadian-born person
- a person from your former country
- a person from another country

From their arrival to the end of their second year in Canada, 10 per cent of all male immigrants had married, and by the third year this proportion had increased to 14 per cent. (Because of the sample design women were withdrawn from the sample when they married.) Table 11.1 shows that the majority of these male immigrants – two-thirds on average – married compatriots, while less than one-fifth married Canadians. But note that the longer the immigrant stays in

Canada the greater is the likelihood that he will marry a Canadian, and that this tendency develops rapidly. Between the second and third years alone the number of such marriages rose by 70 per cent, a good indication of a change in the immigrant's cultural identity.

TABLE 11.1  
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF WIVES OF IMMIGRANTS WHO  
MARRIED AFTER ARRIVING, BY LENGTH OF RESIDENCE  
(Percentage distribution)

Time of Marriage	Canada	Respondent's Country of Origin	Other Country	Total
During the first two years	16	70	14	100
During the third year	27	57	16	100
Total period	19	66	15	100

It is reasonable to suppose that younger immigrants, who are usually more exposed to outside influences, are more likely to marry Canadians than the older ones, and this is confirmed in the study. Of the immigrants who married after their arrival, 25 per cent of those under 25 married Canadians, against 15 per cent of those in the 25-34 age group.

TABLE 11.2  
MALE IMMIGRANTS MARRYING  
CANADIANS AFTER ARRIVING IN  
CANADA, BY AGE

Age	Per Cent of Marriages
15-24 years	25
25-34 years	15

Table 11.3

TABLE 11.3  
 COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF WIVES OF IMMIGRANTS  
 WHO MARRIED AFTER ARRIVING IN CANADA, BY LANDED  
 STATUS OF HUSBAND  
 (Percentage distribution)

Landed Status	Country of Origin of Wife			Percentage of Total
	Canada	Husband's Country of Origin	Another Country	
Independent	28	52	20	100
Nominated	9	81	10	100
Other	7	89	4	100
Percentage of total	19	66	15	100

Table 11.3 shows that independent immigrants are three to four times more likely to marry Canadians than are nominated or other classes of immigrants. This reflects the fact that nominated immigrants are more numerous in the total inflows from southern Europe, the West Indies and Asia. A preliminary analysis has shown that immigrants from Britain, the United States and Australia (who are predominantly independent immigrants) are far more likely to marry Canadian-born persons than are immigrants from other countries.

### Language Spoken at Home

The language spoken at home undoubtedly constitutes a major determining factor in preserving an immigrant's cultural identity or adopting a new one. In each of the four questionnaires, the immigrants in the sample were asked which language they spoke at home. The responses at the end of six months and two years are analyzed by country of origin and by educational level, to see what changes occurred over this period.

Note in Table 11.4 that the countries whose emigrants to Canada commonly speak English at home are those in which English is predominant, if not the official language. French is spoken at home by nine out of 10 immigrants from France and by small numbers from southern Europe and the West Indies. The majority of immigrants from Germany, southern Europe and the Far East — more than three out of four from Portugal, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Italy — speak their mother tongue at home.

After two years in Canada, slightly more of the sample speak English at home, mainly at the expense of "other" mother tongues. French is used at home by more Italians and Germans, but by fewer immigrants from France, Portugal and the West Indies. Virtually all of the "other" mother tongues were spoken at home by fewer immigrants but the total decrease in this group was only two percentage points.

The relationship between the language spoken in the home and the educational level of the respondent is shown in

TABLE 11.4  
 LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME, AFTER SIX MONTHS AND  
 TWO YEARS, BY RESPONDENT'S COUNTRY OF ORIGIN  
*(Percentage Distribution)*

Respondent's country of origin	English		French		Other Mother Tongue	
	Six Months	Two Years	Six Months	Two Years	Six Months	Two Years
United Kingdom	100	100	0	0	0	0
France	11	14	89	86	0	0
Germany, Fed. Rep.	32	34	0	2	68	64
Greece	36	35	2	2	62	63
Italy	13	24	5	8	82	68
Portugal	12	18	6	3	82	79
Yugoslavia	22	25	1	2	77	73
Hong Kong and Taiwan	15	22	1	0	84	78
India	66	69	0	0	34	31
Philippines	41	40	0	0	59	60
Australia	100	100	0	0	0	0
United States	99	99	0	0	1	1
West Indies	97	98	2	1	1	1
Others	44	47	11	10	45	43
Total	62	65	5	5	32	30

TABLE 11.5  
 LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME BY RESPONDENT'S  
 LEVEL OF EDUCATION  
 (Percentage distribution)

Level of Education	Language Spoken at Home				
	English	French	Six Months	Two Years	Other Mother tongue
1 to 11 years	51	52	46	45	67
12 or more years	49	48	54	55	33
Total	100	100	100	100	100

Table 11.5. Among those still speaking a mother tongue other than English or French at home six months after arrival, two-thirds had less than 12 years of education. This proportion was smaller after two years, but it was apparent that a substantial majority of the immigrants using a language other than French or English in the home were still the less educated.

## Knowledge of Canada's Official Languages

An immigrant's knowledge of Canada's official languages may not have a strong influence on the preservation of his culture, but it undoubtedly affects the ease with which he adapts and the speed of his adaptation to the new cultural environment. An improvement in knowledge of English or French, particularly by women, may indicate a displacement of another language in use in the home, and to that extent a change in the culture with which the immigrant identifies. We therefore present in this section information on the degree of knowledge of official languages for the three-year period classified by sex, level of education, class of immigrant, and region of destination.

Table 11.6 shows that the proportion of immigrants having a good or perfect knowledge of English is far greater than those having the same knowledge of French, and that the proportion with a good or perfect knowledge of English also increased more rapidly during the first three years.

Other information from the survey indicates that the younger immigrants had less knowledge of either English or French than their older counterparts, but rapidly improved their knowledge, and in three years achieved virtually the average level of language facility.

Although, as one might expect, knowledge of English is positively related to the level of the immigrant's education, two points are worth noting. The first is the wide difference between the immigrants with eight years or less education (one in three had a good or perfect knowledge of English on arrival) and those with higher levels of education (four out of five knew English well). The second point is that the

TABLE 11.6  
PERCENTAGE OF IMMIGRANTS WITH  
KNOWLEDGE OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Good or Perfect Knowledge of:	After Six Months	After Two Years	After Three Years
English			
Men	69	73	79
Women*	82	86	87
Total	71	78	80
French			
Men	11	11	11
Women*	8	9	8
Total	10	11	11

\* In the Labour Force.

proportion of the less educated acquiring a facility in English increased more rapidly than among the more highly educated (Table 11.6).

The number of immigrants with a good or perfect knowledge of French was much smaller, and therefore not capable of being analyzed in the same detail. But it is clear that the immigrants with higher levels of education are more likely than the less educated to have a good or perfect knowledge of French. The difference is less pronounced than in the case of English, and the improvement over time is less marked.

Table 11.8, showing the facility with English by immigrants from different countries, has three distinct groups. The first comprises those countries whose emigrants have a very high proportion with a good or perfect knowledge of English. There is a close parallel between this table and Table 11.4, illustrating the language commonly spoken at home. The major difference is that among immigrants from the Philippines, far more claim facility with English (86 per cent)

TABLE 11.7  
PERCENTAGE OF IMMIGRANTS WITH  
KNOWLEDGE OF OFFICIAL  
LANGUAGES BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION

Language and Level of Education	Good or Perfect Knowledge		
	After Six Months	After Two Years	After Three Years
English			
1 to 8 years	34	46	52
9 to 13 years	82	87	89
14 years and over	86	90	93
TOTAL	71	78	80
French			
1 to 13 years	8	9	9
14 years and over	16	17	17
TOTAL	10	11	11

than speak it at home (37 per cent).

In the second group the percentage with a good or perfect knowledge of English on arrival in Canada ranges from 30 to 52 per cent. Note that after three years the number of German immigrants with facility in English increased to 83 per cent.

In the third group, one-fifth or less knew English well when they arrived, but improved their knowledge most rapidly. Three years saw two-and-a-half times the number of Greeks, three times the number of Italians, and four times the number of Portuguese, achieving a good or perfect knowledge of English.

Apart from those immigrants who came from France, the only significant proportions with knowledge of French language were those from Italy (16 per cent) and Portugal

TABLE 11.8  
PERCENTAGE OF IMMIGRANTS WITH  
KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH BY  
COUNTRY OF BIRTH

Country	Good or Perfect Knowledge of English		
	After Six Months	After Two Years	After Three Years
Britain	100	100	100
India	87	89	90
Philippines	86	89	92
Australia	100	100	100
United States	100	100	100
West Indies	99	99	99
France	36	37	42
Germany, Fed. Rep.	52	71	83
Hong Kong and Taiwan	30	41	45
Greece	21	44	51
Italy	12	26	36
Portugal	5	20	23
Yugoslavia	19	45	57
Others	64	76	79
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>80</b>

(18 per cent). These proportions changed very little during the three-year period.

There is little difference among the regions in the distribution of respondents according to their degree of knowledge of English, except for Quebec, where the proportion of people who have a good or perfect knowledge of English is lower than elsewhere.

Respondents with a good or perfect knowledge of French are largely concentrated in Quebec, but even here less than

TABLE 11.9  
 PERCENTAGE OF IMMIGRANTS WITH  
 KNOWLEDGE OF OFFICIAL  
 LANGUAGES BY REGION OF DESTINATION

Language and Region	Good or Perfect Knowledge		
	After Six Months	After Two Years	After Three Years
French			
Atlantic Provinces	8	10	8
Quebec	38	42	43
Ontario	7	7	6
Prairie Provinces	5	5	7
British Columbia	5	6	6
Total	10	11	11
English			
Atlantic Provinces	76	88	87
Quebec	66	69	70
Ontario	74	79	82
Prairie Provinces	74	78	83
British Columbia	73	78	80
Total	71	78	80

half claim this knowledge.

Finally, speaking their native language at home does not seem to affect their acquisition of a better knowledge of English or French. In fact, after six months of residence in Canada, 35 per cent of the immigrants who use their mother tongue at home have a good or perfect knowledge of English. After two years' residence the group had increased to 51 per cent. The group that used their mother tongue at home, but had a good or perfect knowledge of French increased from eight per cent to 10 per cent over the same period.

## Participation in an Association

Active participation by an immigrant in any association constitutes another opportunity for him to adjust to the environment or to preserve his cultural identity, depending on the composition of the membership of this association. After two years' residence in the country, the immigrant in the sample was asked the following question:

Are you an *active* member of any club or association in Canada?

If the answer was affirmative, he was asked whether his club or association was

- mainly attended by Canadian-born persons
- mainly attended by persons born in your home country
- mainly by persons from some other country

Furthermore, if the immigrant was married and his wife was living with him in Canada, he was asked the same questions about his wife.

The replies showed that 31 per cent of the respondents were active members of an association at the end of their second year of residence in Canada. Of this number, 66 per cent participated in an association in which Canadians constituted a majority, whereas 24 per cent were members of an association that grouped together mainly people from their country of origin. Finally, another 10 per cent joined an association composed mainly of people from other countries.

Britain, the United States and Australia provided the most prolific joiners of associations, with proportions ranging from 43 to 53 per cent. A second group, with a lower participation rate, were the immigrants from India (31 per cent), Germany (28 per cent), France (23 per cent), the Philippines, (24 per cent), West Indies (23 per cent), and Greece (21 per cent). Fewer than 15 per cent of immigrants from Italy, Portugal, Hong Kong and Taiwan were members of associations.

## Sense of Belonging

Two questions bearing directly on the immigrant's identification with this country were asked at the end of his third year here:

Since your arrival in Canada, have you advised friends or relatives abroad to settle in Canada?

Do you now feel that Canada is your "home" country, or do you feel as if you belong more to your former country?

- I now feel that Canada is my "home" country
- I still feel that I belong to my former country
- I am still undecided

It should be noted that a "no" to the first question does not necessarily mean that the respondent counselled against moving to Canada, but merely that he did not advise his friends and relatives to come. The results show that 46 per cent of the respondents said they had sent advice to relatives or friends to move to Canada (Table 11.10).

It is interesting to note that a sense of belonging had the effect one would expect on the immigrants' reports about Canada, though not an overriding influence. Of those who still felt attached to their country of origin after three years, one-quarter nevertheless advised their friends and relatives to move to Canada. On the other hand, though more than one-half of the immigrants who felt at home since moving to Canada advised their friends to come, more than two in five did not.

Table 11.11 shows the extent to which immigrants from different countries felt at home in Canada after three years. It is perhaps surprising to find that immigrants whose mother tongue is not French or English had the greatest tendency to feel at home in Canada. Among immigrants from English-speaking countries, less than half felt at home here, and (except for those from the U.S.) more than a third were undecided.

TABLE 11.10  
 RESPONDENTS WHO ADVISED SETTLEMENT IN  
 CANADA BY FEELING OF BELONGING AFTER THREE YEARS  
 (Percentage distribution)

Advised Friends or Relatives	Feeling of Belonging			All Respondents
	At Home in Canada	Attached to Their Country of Origin	Undecided	
Yes	57	26	37	46
No	43	74	63	54
Total	100	100	100	100
Percentage of total	55	14	31	100

TABLE 11. 11  
SENSE OF BELONGING, BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN  
(Percentage distribution)

Country of Origin	Sense of Belonging		
	At Home in Canada	Attached to Their Country of Origin	Undecided
Hong Kong and Taiwan	75	8	17
Yugoslavia	70	11	19
India	70	4	26
Portugal	64	10	26
France	58	16	26
Greece	53	10	37
Britain	50	16	34
Germany, Fed. Rep.	48	19	33
United States	48	24	28
Philippines	46	17	37
West Indies	43	11	46
Italy	39	19	42
Australia	25	39	36
Others	63	12	25
TOTAL	55	14	31

Immigrant groups that had the highest sense of belonging to Canada and least identification with their home country were groups that showed a rapid improvement in knowledge of French or English. This is particularly true of Yugoslavs and Portuguese and, to a lesser extent, the Chinese. It was noticeable that among these same groups there was a marked decrease, in only two years, in the proportion speaking their mother tongue at home. The proportion of Germans and Italians who still felt attached to their country of origin was high relative to other groups, but among both there was a rapid increase in knowledge of English and a corresponding drop in the numbers using their mother tongue in the home.

TABLE 11.12

SENSE OF BELONGING, AFTER THREE YEARS, BY REGION OF RESIDENCE  
(Percentage distribution)

Respondent's Region	Respondents Feel		
	At Home in Canada	Attached to Their Country of Origin	Undecided
Atlantic Provinces	40	21	39
Quebec	58	17	25
Ontario	53	13	34
Prairie Provinces	57	17	26
British Columbia	62	10	28
Total	55	14	31

The greatest sense of belonging and least attachment to country of origin was among immigrants who came to British Columbia, followed by those who went to Quebec and the Prairies. Residents of the Atlantic provinces had the smallest proportion who felt they belonged and the highest number still attached to their country of origin, or undecided.

## SATISFACTION WITH CANADIAN CONDITIONS

Impressions of working and living conditions in Canada were investigated under eight different headings. The replies of immigrants in the sample, taken at various times over a three-year period, are summarized in the Table 12.1, and then analyzed in greater detail under each heading.

Three-fifths or more of all immigrants were satisfied with the conditions they found in Canada. Job opportunities and the cost of living found least favour with them, and became less satisfactory as time went on. On average, however, 61 per cent of the immigrants were either satisfied or very satisfied with these aspects of life in Canada. A consistently high proportion of immigrants, 86 per cent, replied that the education system in Canada was to their liking, and a similar proportion was happy with health and recreational services. The degree of satisfaction with other conditions varied between these extremes, but rose steadily through the period of the survey.

TABLE 12.1  
VIEWS ABOUT CONDITIONS IN CANADA  
(Percentage distribution)

Conditions	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Total
Employment opportunities	62	38	100
Earnings	78	22	100
Cost of living	61	39	100
Housing	73	27	100
Health services	83	17	100
Education	86	14	100
Cultural services	77	23	100
Recreational services	86	14	100

## Views About Employment Opportunities

The most striking feature of Table 12.2 is the sharp drop in the numbers satisfied with employment opportunities in the second year, undoubtedly reflecting the deterioration in the employment situation that occurred in 1970 and 1971, when unemployment in Canada rose to a 10-year high. The general economic improvement in 1972 was probably responsible for the more favourable views expressed by immigrants in their third year.

Satisfaction with the job situation was naturally higher among the employed than among the unemployed – almost twice as high, on average. And among the employed, as one would also expect, those working in their chosen occupation were far more satisfied with employment opportunities than the immigrants who were not working at a job of their own choosing.

More of the independent immigrants were satisfied with their jobs than nominated immigrants. This, too, is not surprising because the occupational qualifications of the nominated immigrants were less likely to meet the requirements of the Canadian labour market.

Those who went to the Atlantic and Prairie provinces expressed the greatest satisfaction with the job situation, probably due to a higher degree of pre-arranged employment and lower unemployment rates among immigrants. It was also found that immigrants who went to the Atlantic and Prairie provinces did so, by and large, to work in their chosen profession.

## Views About Earnings

In contrast to job opportunities, immigrants were more satisfied with their level of earnings. They showed little change in this view during the three-year period, and what change did occur was in the direction of greater satisfaction (see Table 12.3).

Immigrants who were most satisfied with their earnings had the highest education. Very satisfied respondents had an

TABLE 12.2  
VIEWS ABOUT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Views	After Six Months	After Two Years	After Three Years	Average
	%	%	%	%
Very satisfied	31	17	21	23
Satisfied	37	36	42	39
Dissatisfied	21	28	27	25
Very dissatisfied	11	19	10	13
Total	100	100	100	100
Proportions satisfied or very satisfied with employment opportunities				
Employed Immigrants	70	56	65	64
Unemployed Immigrants	48	22	33	34
Independent immigrants	72	56	65	64
Nominated immigrants	65	49	63	59
In chosen occupation	83	66	72	74
Not in chosen occupation	50	34	49	44
Atlantic Provinces	80	58	71	70
Quebec	68	56	61	62
Ontario	67	51	62	60
Prairie Provinces	75	58	75	70
British Columbia	67	56	62	61

average of 12 years of education; the very dissatisfied had an average of 10 years. Seven out of 10 immigrants with fewer than nine years of education were satisfied with their earnings, as against nine out of 10 of the most highly educated.

The independent immigrant was more satisfied with earnings than the nominated immigrant, for the reasons cited in the foregoing section on employment opportunities. He is usually better educated, probably has a better job, and he is more likely to be working in his chosen occupation. The survey found, not surprisingly, that a higher degree of satisfaction coincided with higher earnings. Dissatisfaction

with earnings was almost exclusively limited to respondents whose earnings were less than \$750 per month.

Satisfaction with earnings was above average in the Prairie and Atlantic provinces – the same regions in which immigrants expressed the highest satisfaction with employment opportunities. But the largest relative number satisfied with earnings – 85 per cent – was among those who settled in British Columbia.

TABLE 12.3  
IMMIGRANTS' VIEWS ABOUT EARNINGS

Views	After Six Months	After Two Years	After Three Years	Average
	%	%	%	%
Very satisfied	29	23	27	26
Satisfied	49	53	53	52
Dissatisfied	17	19	16	17
Very dissatisfied	5	5	4	5
Total	100	100	100	100
Proportions satisfied or very satisfied with earnings				
Independent immigrants	81	80	84	82
Nominated immigrants	73	70	74	72
Education				
less than 9 years	72	68	70	70
9 - 11 years	79	79	82	80
12 - 13 years	78	79	82	80
14 - 15 years	76	72	85	78
16 - 17 years	81	80	83	82
18 or more years	89	84	88	87
Atlantic Provinces	75	78	87	79
Quebec	77	76	77	77
Ontario	77	74	78	76
Prairie Provinces	79	76	84	80
British Columbia	84	85	84	85
Montreal	75	73	76	74
Toronto	74	69	75	73
Vancouver	82	78	81	80

## Views About the Cost of Living

Immigrants were more satisfied with the cost of living initially than after living in Canada for two or three years. On average, however, more than 60 per cent did not appear to find prices excessive. Surprisingly, the views of the employed and unemployed did not differ a great deal on this matter (see Table 12.4).

But immigrants' assessments of the cost of living should be related to their earnings, because the two are not truly separable. On this score we find that immigrants dissatisfied with the cost of living were far more numerous than those dissatisfied with their earnings. But among those who were satisfied with their earnings 67 per cent, on average, were also satisfied with the cost of living. And among those dissatisfied with earnings, a surprising 41 per cent were satisfied with the cost of living.

TABLE 12.4  
IMMIGRANTS' VIEWS ABOUT THE COST OF LIVING

Views	After Six Months	After Two Years	After Three Years	Average
	%	%	%	%
Very satisfied	15	11	11	12
Satisfied	50	48	47	48
Dissatisfied	28	30	31	30
Very dissatisfied	7	11	11	10
Total	100	100	100	100
Proportion satisfied or very satisfied with cost of living				
Employed	66	60	58	61
Unemployed	63	53	56	57
Satisfied* with earnings	71	67	63	67
Dissatisfied* with earnings	47	37	38	41

\* Includes very 'satisfied' and very 'dissatisfied'.

## Views About Housing

Almost three of every four immigrants were satisfied with their accommodation, the proportion increasing slightly during the period.

The pattern of accommodation occupied changed substantially, with more moving into their own homes as they could afford it. By the end of the third year, 27 per cent had bought houses as opposed to eight per cent in the first six months (see Table 12.5). Occupation of other types of accommodation, particularly boarding houses or rented rooms, dropped accordingly.

Immigrants settling in Quebec were more satisfied with housing than newcomers elsewhere. Immigrants were less satisfied with the accommodation they occupied in the Atlantic provinces, and in Toronto.

## Views About Health Services

On the whole, health services are very well regarded by immigrants. Almost half were very satisfied with these services, on average. This proportion rose steadily over the period and, at the end of the three years, 87 per cent were satisfied or very satisfied with health services in their community (Table 12.6).

There were differences among the regions. Health services in the West were more highly regarded than those of Central and Eastern Canada, and classification by metropolitan areas followed the same pattern. There was no significant difference in the levels of satisfaction when respondents were classified by age, number of children, or frequency of illness.

TABLE 12.5  
IMMIGRANTS' VIEWS ABOUT ACCOMMODATION

Views	After Six Months	After Two Years	After Three Years	Average
	%	%	%	%
Very satisfied	32	31	31	31
Satisfied	38	42	44	41
Dissatisfied	20	17	16	18
Very dissatisfied	10	10	9	10
Total	100	100	100	100
Type of Accommodation Occupied				
Total	100	100	100	100
Boarding house*	16	15	10	14
Apartment	49	49	46	48
Rented house	17	14	13	15
Purchased house	8	18	27	17
Other	10	4	4	6
Proportions satisfied or very satisfied with accommodation				
Boarding house*	77	73	76	75
Apartment	67	71	70	69
Rented house	63	72	70	68
Purchased house	76	80	84	80
Atlantic Provinces	53	67	71	64
Quebec	79	85	88	84
Ontario	68	67	69	68
Prairie Provinces	74	82	84	80
British Columbia	65	79	79	74
Montreal	86	85	90	87
Toronto	66	64	63	64
Vancouver	62	79	76	72

\* Includes rented room.

TABLE 12.6  
VIEWS ABOUT HEALTH SERVICES

Views	After Six Months	After Two Years	After Three Years	Average
	%	%	%	%
Very satisfied	43	45	54	47
Satisfied	36	38	33	36
Dissatisfied	14	12	10	12
Very dissatisfied	7	5	3	5
Total	100	100	100	100
Proportions satisfied or very satisfied with health services				
Atlantic Provinces	80	76	84	80
Quebec	71	81	87	80
Ontario	76	80	84	80
Prairie Provinces	88	89	92	90
British Columbia	89	91	87	89
Montreal	71	82	89	81
Toronto	74	83	87	81
Vancouver	88	91	86	88

### Views About Educational Facilities

Satisfaction with educational facilities was relatively high among respondents, and increased steadily over the period of the study. On average, more than half were very well pleased with the school system in their area and only four per cent were very dissatisfied (see Table 12.7).

Views on this subject differed significantly between immigrants in different regions. Satisfaction with the school system was highest among immigrants in Ontario, followed by those in the Prairie provinces and British Columbia. Fewer were satisfied in Quebec and the Atlantic provinces, in that order. In the three metropolitan areas, more immigrants were satisfied with schools than in other parts of the province.

TABLE 12.7  
VIEWS ABOUT EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Views	After Six Months	After Two Years	After Three Years	Average
	%	%	%	%
Very satisfied	54	51	51	52
Satisfied	32	35	35	34
Dissatisfied	10	10	10	10
Very dissatisfied	4	4	4	4
Total	100	100	100	100
Proportions satisfied or very satisfied with educational facilities				
Atlantic Provinces	69	69	65	68
Quebec	77	79	74	77
Ontario	88	89	89	89
Prairie Provinces	89	85	88	87
British Columbia	84	86	86	85
Montreal	77	82	77	79
Toronto	88	92	92	91
Vancouver	88	88	88	88

TABLE 12.8

## IMMIGRANTS' VIEWS ABOUT CULTURAL FACILITIES

Views	After Six Months	After Two Years	After Three Years	Average
	%	%	%	%
Very satisfied	38	31	32	34
Satisfied	40	45	46	44
Dissatisfied	15	17	15	15
Very dissatisfied	7	7	7	7
Total	100	100	100	100
Proportions satisfied or very satisfied with cultural facilities				
Education				
Less than 12 years	83	80	82	82
12 years or more	72	71	73	72
Atlantic Provinces	65	64	57	62
Quebec	79	76	74	76
Ontario	79	77	79	78
Prairie Provinces	75	70	78	74
British Columbia	81	78	79	79
Montreal	78	78	79	78
Toronto	82	83	83	83
Vancouver	83	82	85	83

## Views About Cultural Facilities

The views of respondents about cultural facilities followed the pattern of their views about schooling, but at a generally lower level of satisfaction. The feeling of dissatisfaction was considerably greater among those with 12 or more years of education than among the less educated, and greater in the areas outside Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver than in these metropolitan areas (see Table 12.8).

TABLE 12.9

## IMMIGRANTS' VIEWS ABOUT RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Views	After Six Months	After Two Years	After Three Years	Average
	%	%	%	%
Very satisfied	50	46	49	48
Satisfied	35	40	38	38
Dissatisfied	10	11	10	10
Very dissatisfied	5	3	3	4
Total	100	100	100	100
Proportion satisfied or very satisfied with recreational facilities				
Atlantic Provinces	67	78	58	68
Quebec	87	84	82	84
Ontario	83	86	88	86
Prairie Provinces	86	82	86	85
British Columbia	90	91	91	91
Montreal	84	86	87	86
Toronto	84	89	91	88
Vancouver	91	94	93	93

## Views About Recreational Facilities

A high and rising proportion of immigrants were pleased with recreational facilities in Canada. The highest level of satisfaction was found in British Columbia, the lowest in the Atlantic provinces, the other three regions occupying a middle position (see Table 12.9).



## Part 3

### THE DECISION TO EMIGRATE AND THE INTENTION TO SETTLE

This Part examines the reasons why the immigrant decided to leave his home country and come to Canada, and whether he intends to settle here permanently. Whereas the previous chapters on economic and social adaptation have dealt with the relationships between the immigrant and the Canadian economy and society, this Part concentrates on what motivated the immigrant to come to Canada, and whether he intends to stay or re-emigrate.



## THE DECISION TO EMIGRATE

In the first questionnaire, immigrants were asked to identify which of the following was the most important reason for coming to Canada:

- to improve his economic position, standard of living, etc;
- to be near relatives or close friends;
- desire for adventure, travel and to see the world;
- the political situation in his former country;
- other.

The response of 4,414 immigrants who answered this questionnaire is the basis of the following analysis.

These replies confirm that material considerations are the major force motivating people to emigrate. For just over one-half of the respondents the prospect of an improved economic position was the main reason for coming to Canada. Almost one in five looked upon the move as an adventure, and only 10 per cent emigrated to be near relatives or friends. Another 10 per cent gave a variety of other reasons. Of these, many said they were simply dissatisfied at home and wanted a change. Others believed that their children would have a better future in Canada. Still others came because of a job transfer, a chance to pursue studies in Canada, or to diversify their professional experience.

In general, relatives or friends in Canada had less influence on the decision to emigrate than might have been expected, but had greater significance, naturally, among nominated immigrants than independent immigrants. Family ties were given as the reason by only 16 per cent of all nominated immigrants, a classification which was established specifically to broaden the range of relatives that Canadians and landed immigrants could help bring to Canada. Despite the fact that 55 per cent of immigrants received advance

information about conditions in Canada from relatives or friends, less than 10 per cent came to be near them. There was, moreover, no evidence of a strong desire to join relatives on the part of immigrants from countries where a modified form of the "extended" family system still exists. Persons from Greece, Portugal, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and India, for example, were actually more likely to give economic considerations than family ties as their reasons for emigrating.

For the women in the survey, the largest single reason for emigrating was a desire for travel and adventure. This was particularly true of young single girls from Australia, New Zealand, Britain, Germany and France. Over two-thirds of females from these countries were prompted to emigrate by a desire for adventure and travel. Men, regardless of age or marital status, were clearly influenced to a greater extent by economic prospects.

As might be expected, the more educated the immigrant the less likely he was to have been motivated mainly by economic conditions. Immigrants of both sexes having only an elementary school level of education were twice as likely to indicate a desire "to improve my economic position" as persons who had some university education. Consequently, persons whose intended occupation in Canada was in the professional, technical, or managerial categories were much less likely to refer to economic reasons than were immigrants who intended to work in a semi-skilled or unskilled occupation.

There were significant differences in motivational patterns between independent and nominated immigrants. These largely reflect differences in age, sex and education. Many more nominated immigrants came here for economic reasons since they have on average less education than independent immigrants, and more of them are men; both are characteristics associated with an economic motive for emigrating.

People from rural areas were more likely than city people to have an economic motive for emigrating. Conversely, people from cities were more likely than town or country people to emigrate simply because of a desire to travel. Residents of farm, village, town and city showed no differ-

TABLE 13.1  
REASONS FOR EMIGRATING  
(Percentage distribution)

	To Improve Economic Position	To be Near Relatives or Close Friends	Desire for Adventure and Travel	Political Situation in Former Country	Other Reasons	Total
All Immigrants	54	10	18	8	10	100
Sex						
Males	60	9	11	9	11	100
Females	36	14	40	2	8	100
Category						
Independent	47	5	27	7	14	100
Nominated	69	16	6	5	4	100
Other <sup>*</sup>	40	23	2	23	12	100
Education						
1-8 years	71	13	7	5	4	100
9-11 years	54	9	21	8	8	100
12 years or more	41	7	25	10	17	100
Former Location						
Farm or village	66	11	14	3	6	100
Town	56	8	18	8	10	100
Large city	48	10	21	9	12	100

\* Sponsored, refugees and admissions by Order in Council.

ences in their desire to be near relatives or friends as a reason for emigrating.

### Accuracy of Information Received Abroad

In past years, it has occasionally been suggested that immigrants have been given too rosy a picture of employment opportunities in Canada. The results show that, in general, immigrants felt that they received a realistic account of conditions in Canada. From whatever source, more than four-fifths of the sample replied that the information they received was accurate.

Close to 90 per cent of all respondents said they had received some information about Canada before emigrating. The main source for three out of five was relatives or friends in Canada. Less than a third reported Canadian immigration officials as a major information source; a somewhat greater proportion of independent immigrants used this official source.

Of the immigrants who were given information by Canadian immigration officials, only one-fifth felt that the information was inaccurate. Most of these — almost two-thirds — claimed that information on employment, especially, was inadequate or inaccurate. Criticism was more often expressed by those who intended to work in professional, technical or craft occupations. In general immigrants who did not move into their intended occupation had about the same views on the subject as those who did. Almost half of the 19 per cent who felt they were poorly counselled by Canadian immigration officials abroad were from the United Kingdom.

TABLE 13.2  
 MAIN SOURCE OF ADVICE OR INFORMATION  
 OBTAINED ABROAD ON CONDITIONS IN CANADA  
 (Percentage distribution)

Class of Immigrant	Relatives and Friends in Canada	Canadian Immigration Officials	Other Sources	Total
Independent	47	39	14	100
Nominated	87	11	2	100
Other	73	19	8	100
Total	61	29	10	100

TABLE 13.3  
 VIEWS OF IMMIGRANTS ON THE ACCURACY OF  
 INFORMATION ABOUT CANADA BY SOURCE  
 (Percentage distribution)

Proportions of Immigrants who felt that the Information was:	Relatives and Friends in Canada	Canadian Immigration Officials	Other Sources
Accurate	88	81	84
Inaccurate	12	19	16
Total	100	100	100



## THE INTENTION TO SETTLE IN CANADA

In previous chapters of this report, a number of different factors relating to the economic and social adaptation of immigrants have been discussed. In this section an overall measure of adaptation will be considered. On each of the questionnaires the immigrant was asked his intention with respect to permanent settlement in Canada. In addition, on the first questionnaire he was asked to state what his "original" intentions were on coming to Canada. An analysis of the responses to these questions gives a picture of the changing attitudes of immigrants, over the three years of the study, towards Canada as a country of permanent residence.

However, we cannot assume that a person who intends to settle in Canada permanently is necessarily "better adapted" to Canadian life than one who intends to leave. Almost one-quarter of those who were still here at the end of three years did not originally intend to settle permanently in Canada. These people intended either to return to their home country or to proceed to a third country, viewing Canada as a country of temporary residence. There are several possible reasons for this initial view. They may have come to Canada for a specific temporary job, or on assignment with a multi-national firm. They may have believed that Canada offered them a chance to work for higher incomes than were available in their former countries and an opportunity to amass savings they could not acquire at home. They may have had no desire to settle in any one country on a "permanent" basis, being by nature individuals who desired changes in culture and life styles at several stages during their careers. These persons may be very successful in adapting to Canada by any objective measure, but they may still not indicate a desire to settle here permanently.

The analysis in this section deals with the settlement intentions of those immigrants who were still in Canada three years after immigrating, and thus is not representative of all immigrants who originally arrived. A separate study is

being made of those immigrants who left Canada during the three-year period of the longitudinal survey. However, to put this section in perspective, Table 14.1 shows the "original intentions", as determined by the first questionnaire for those who subsequently left Canada in the following 30 months, and those who were still here after three years.

TABLE 14.1  
ORIGINAL SETTLEMENT INTENTIONS  
OF IMMIGRANTS  
(Percentage distribution)

Original Intention	Immigrants Who Left Canada Before End of Study	Immigrants Who Remained In Canada and Answered All Questionnaires
To Stay	42	76
To Leave	58	24
Total	100	100

Not surprisingly, the original intentions were greatly different for the two groups. Of those who remained in Canada after three years, three-quarters had originally intended to settle here permanently. Of those who subsequently left, only two-fifths originally intended to come permanently.

For immigrants who remained in the study for three years, the pattern of settlement intentions is shown in Table 14.2. Unlike the question on original intentions, where a positive or negative answer was forced, the questions on current intentions on each of the four questionnaires permitted the immigrant to state that he was "undecided" about his future intentions.

It will be noted from the table that nominated immigrants in general were more likely to intend to settle permanently in Canada than were independent immigrants; but this gap, which was 26 percentage points after six months, had been narrowed to 11 after two years. There was no significant shift in settlement intentions between the

TABLE 14.2  
 SETTLEMENT INTENTIONS OF IMMIGRANTS DURING  
 THE FIRST THREE YEARS OF RESIDENCE  
 (Percentage distribution)

Class and Intention	Original Intention	Intention After Six Months	Intention After One Year	Intention After Two Years	Intention After Three Years
<b>Independent immigrants</b>					
To Stay	70	53	50	56	56
Undecided	-	33	40	37	35
To leave	30	14	10	7	9
Total	100	100	100	100	100
<b>Nominated immigrants</b>					
To Stay	88	79	65	67	67
Undecided	-	17	32	29	30
To leave	12	4	3	4	3
Total	100	100	100	100	100
<b>All immigrants</b>					
To Stay	76	63	55	60	60
Undecided	-	27	37	34	33
To leave	24	10	8	6	7
Total	100	100	100	100	100

second and the third year.

The stability of the pattern of settlement intentions is also worth noting, there being only a small difference between intentions after six months and after three years. There was a slight diminution in the proportion of the immigrants who stated an intention to settle permanently after one year, indicating possibly a time at which uncertainties about this country and their future in it reached a peak.

### Settlement Intentions by Level of Education

Table 14.3, which analyzes settlement intentions by level of education, has two major features. First, it is evident that at each level of education, a somewhat similar pattern of intentions has developed over the three years after arrival in Canada; the percentage of individuals who intended to stay was nearly the same after six months and after 3 years, but there was a slight dip in the percentage who intended to stay after one year in Canada. An exception to this pattern was present for those who had elementary school education or less. For these persons, the intention to stay was higher by 9 percentage points after six months than after three years.

Secondly, it is evident that people with lower educational levels were more prone to remain in Canada than those with higher education. This inverse ranking of educational level with intention to stay was maintained throughout the three years of the survey period with only one significant deviation. Originally and until the end of the second year in Canada, more persons who had completed their bachelor's degree intended to stay in Canada than those with only some university training. This possibly reflected a more settled view of their careers by those who actually had completed their studies. However, the ranking between these two groups was the same after the second year in Canada; by the end of the third year, there was a steady decrease in the intention to stay with a higher educational level of the immigrant.

The fact that fewer of the more highly educated intended to stay in Canada is explained by their greater mobility. For

**SETTLEMENT INTENTIONS BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION**

TABLE 14.3 (Continued)

Period	Elementary School Finished or Less	Secondary School Unfinished	Secondary School Finished	Some University	University Finished (BA)	University Finished (MA or Doctorate)	Total Respondents
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<i>After the second year</i>							
To stay	65	62	58	51	56	51	60
Undecided	31	33	36	40	33	41	34
To leave	4	5	6	9	11	8	6
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<i>After the third year</i>							
To stay	63	61	59	58	58	52	60
Undecided	33	33	34	33	33	38	33
To leave	4	6	7	9	9	10	7
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

many of the most highly trained professionals the labour market is international in scope, and for these specialists emigration is frequently not a permanent move. Moreover, people with higher education often have the financial resources to enable them to move internationally and may have more contacts at the international level which make them aware of employment and living opportunities in other countries.

Less educated persons tend to have fewer opportunities in the international labour market, and are more likely to look for permanence in their community.

This explanation is confirmed by table 14.4, which classifies the settlement intentions of immigrants by average earnings. It shows clearly that the annual earnings of immigrants who intended to leave were much higher than the earnings of immigrants who had decided to stay in Canada.

TABLE 14.4  
SETTLEMENT INTENTIONS AND  
AVERAGE EARNINGS

	Average Earnings - Annual Rates			
	Stay	Undecided	Leave	Total Sample
After the first six months of residence	\$4,734	\$5,614	\$6,542	\$5,160
After the second six months of residence	5,694	6,084	7,234	5,954
After the second year of residence	7,298	7,674	8,716	7,497
After the third year of residence	8,082	8,512	9,040	8,294

# APPENDIX

## CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SAMPLE

Information in this report is drawn from a sample survey of immigrants destined to the labour force who arrived in Canada during 1969. The universe was restricted to heads of households and unattached individuals. The applicability of the findings to all 1969 immigrants depends largely on the representativeness of the initial sample and especially the continuing participants in the study. Some of the characteristics of the immigrants in the sample are outlined below. Where possible, such traits are related to those of all 1969 immigrants who intended to join the Canadian labour force.

Canada received 161,531 immigrants in 1969. Their average age was 29. Slightly more than half of them came to join the labour force, one third of these in professional and technical occupations. Slightly more than half were headed for Ontario.

It is against these characteristics — and especially in comparison with those who intended to enter the labour force — that we have to examine the composition of the sample of 2,037 immigrants who responded to all four questionnaires administered after six months, one year, two years and three years of residence in Canada.

The rate of response was about 76 per cent for the first questionnaire, 74 per cent for the second, 62 for the third, and 71 for the fourth. Various factors contributed to eliminate a certain number of the initially selected sample, as illustrated below.

In what follows, the characteristics and representativeness of the 2,037 immigrants who answered all questionnaires are examined vis-à-vis 1969 immigrant arrivals who intended joining the labour force. Generally, the sample

of continuing participants was fairly representative of the 1969 immigrant population.

	Number	Per Cent
1) Initially selected sample.....	5,907	100
(Total number of landed immigrants selected on arrival during 1969)		
2) Deletions due to study design.....	876	14.8
(Correctly selected participants rejected because of sample design, e.g. marriage of single females; resumption of studies; retirement; out-migration; return migration; other reasons; death; etc.)		
3) Deletions due to non-response and to Post Office returns.....	2,994	50.7
(Loss of participants due to a combined non- response to any of questionnaires 1, 2, 3 or 4; also loss of participants due to inability to trace addressee)		
4) Sample size after three years of residence.....	2,037	34.5
(Respondents to all questionnaires)		

### Immigration Category

The sample reflected quite well the proportionate distribution of the main immigration classes of independent and nominated persons, as illustrated by Table A.1.

### Age and Sex

As can be seen in Table A.2, the sample also reflected reasonably well the age and sex structure of the total immigration population of working age. The average age for

TABLE A. 1

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION BY  
 IMMIGRATION CLASS OF IMMIGRANT  
 SAMPLE AND IMMIGRANTS DESTINED  
 TO THE LABOUR FORCE

Immigration Class	Immigrant Sample 1969	Immigrants destined to the Labour Force 1969
Independent	63. 2	64. 7
Nominated	31. 3	26. 0
Other classes	5. 5	9. 3
Total	100. 0	100. 0

the sample was 30 years, and the average age for the larger group was 29. Single females in the 15 to 19 age group were, however, under-represented in the sample by 14 per cent, while the 30-34 group were over-represented by about 10 per cent.

### Marital Status

The sample shows an under-representation of single persons (3 per cent for males and 14 per cent for females) and a somewhat greater over-representation of married males (17 per cent).

### Education

The selected sample had an average of 11.4 years of schooling, compared with 11.2 years for all immigrant arrivals of working age. Twenty-six per cent had only elementary schooling (8 years or less); 30.6 per cent had some high school education (9-11 years); 16.7 per cent had completed high school (12-13 years); and 26.5 per cent had attended university (14 years or more of schooling). Comparison with the level of education of the immigrant labour force revealed fairly similar percentages.

TABLE A.2

DISTRIBUTION BY AGE AND SEX,  
 IMMIGRANT SAMPLE AND IMMIGRANT  
 ARRIVALS OF WORKING AGE  
 (Percentages in Italics)

Immigrant Sample 1969				Immigrant Arrivals of Working Age 1969		
Age group	Males	Females*	Total	Males	Females*	Total
15-19	58 3.3	18 6.2	76 3.7	5,497 9.0	4,793 19.7	10,290 12.0
20-24	373 21.4	107 36.8	480 23.6	15,702 25.6	10,222 42.0	25,924 30.3
25-29	485 27.8	83 28.5	568 27.9	16,086 26.3	5,715 23.5	21,801 25.5
30-34	344 19.7	50 17.2	394 19.3	9,645 15.8	1,961 8.1	11,606 13.6
35-39	226 12.9	17 5.8	243 11.9	5,624 9.2	754 3.1	6,378 7.5
40-44	125 7.1	6 2.1	131 6.4	3,028 4.9	346 1.4	3,374 4.0
45-49	62 3.6	7 2.4	69 3.4	1,783 2.9	186 0.8	1,969 2.3
50-54	41 2.3	1 0.3	42 2.1	1,021 1.7	96 0.4	1,117 1.3
55-59	24 1.4	2 0.7	26 1.3	962 1.6	102 0.4	1,064 1.2
60-64	7 0.4	- -	7 0.3	1,066 1.7	83 0.3	1,149 1.3
65+	1 0.1	- -	1 0.1	782 1.3	77 0.3	859 1.0
Total	1,746 100.0	291 100.0	2,037 100.0	61,196 100.0	24,335 100.0	85,531 100.0

\*Single females only.

TABLE A. 3  
 DISTRIBUTION BY MARITAL STATUS  
 AND SEX OF IMMIGRANT SAMPLE AND  
 IMMIGRANT ARRIVALS OF WORKING AGE

Marital Status and Sex	Immigrant Sample 1969		Immigrant Arrivals of Working Age 1969	
	Number	Per Cent.	Number	Per Cent
Single (males)	630	30.9	29,056	34.0
(females)	291	14.3	24,335	28.4
Married (males)	1,093	53.7	30,883	36.1
Other (males)	23	1.1	1,257	1.5
Total	2,037	100.0	85,531	100.0

TABLE A. 4  
 DISTRIBUTION BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION  
 OF IMMIGRANT SAMPLE AND IMMIGRANT  
 ARRIVALS OF WORKING AGE

Level of Education (Years)	Immigrant Sample 1969		Immigrant Arrivals of Working Age 1969	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
1-8	533	26.2	23,140	27.2
9-11	623	30.6	23,707	27.8
12-13	339	16.7	15,893	18.7
14-15	142	7.0	6,459	7.6
16-17	213	10.5	9,095	10.7
18 years and over	184	9.0	6,851	8.0
Average		11.4		11.2

## Intended Occupation

The sample gives a reasonable representation of intended occupations. Table A.5 shows the distribution by groupings of intended occupation of the sample, which was fairly representative in relation to the immigrant labour force in 1969. About 33 per cent of the sample and 32 per cent of all the immigrant labour force intended entering a professional or technical occupation. Roughly the same proportions hoped to become craftsmen or production process workers.

TABLE A.5  
DISTRIBUTION BY INTENDED OCCUPATION  
OF IMMIGRANT SAMPLE AND IMMIGRANT LABOUR FORCE

Groups of Intended Occupation	Immigrant Sample 1969		Immigrant Labour Force 1969	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Managerial & entrepreneurs	81	4.0	2,566	3.0
Professional & technical	674	33.1	26,883	31.9
Clerical	235	11.5	12,222	14.5
Sales	97	4.8	3,287	3.9
Service & recreation	122	6.0	9,060	10.8
Transportation & communication	27	1.3	932	1.1
Farmers & farm workers	66	3.2	2,283	2.7
Loggers	2	0.1	115	0.1
Fishermen, trappers & hunters	-	-	17	0.0
Miners & quarrymen	10	0.5	389	0.5
Craftsmen, production process & related workers	660	32.4	23,443	27.8
Labourers	40	2.0	2,018	2.4
Others			1,134	1.3
Not reported	23	1.1	-	-
Total	2,037	100.0	84,349	100.0

## Province of Residence

The province of residence of the sample again compared well with the overall figures (Table A.6). In Quebec the immigrant labour force was slightly under-represented by the sample, but it was well represented in other provinces.

TABLE A.6  
DISTRIBUTION BY PROVINCE OF INTENDED  
DESTINATION FOR IMMIGRANT SAMPLE AND  
IMMIGRANT LABOUR FORCE

Province of Intended Destination	Immigrant Sample 1969		Immigrant Labour Force 1969	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Newfoundland	10	0.5	422	0.5
Prince Edward Island	1	0.0	66	0.1
Nova Scotia	20	1.0	935	1.1
New Brunswick	20	1.0	575	0.7
Quebec	312	15.3	15,821	18.8
Ontario	1,096	53.8	45,808	54.3
Manitoba	105	5.1	3,474	4.1
Saskatchewan	46	2.3	1,213	1.4
Alberta	165	8.1	5,543	6.6
British Columbia, Yukon & N. W. T.	262	12.9	10,492	12.4
Total	2,037	100.0	84,349	100.0

## Country of Birth

The distribution of the sample by selected countries of birth was fairly close to that of the total immigrant arrivals (Table A.7). One exception was the United States, where under-representation was caused by the fact that many immigrants from that country applied for landed status after coming to Canada, thereby bypassing the sample selection process. (The sampling procedure was revised to correct this

under-representation in subsequent cohorts.)

TABLE A. 7  
DISTRIBUTION BY SELECTED COUNTRY OF  
BIRTH OF IMMIGRANT SAMPLE AND TOTAL  
IMMIGRANT ARRIVALS

Country of birth	Immigrant Sample 1969		Total Immigrant Arrivals 1969	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
United Kingdom	476	23.4	28,790	17.8
France	44	2.2	3,612	2.2
Germany, Fed. Rep.	48	2.3	4,208	2.6
Greece	61	3.0	7,106	4.4
Italy	77	3.8	10,685	6.6
Portugal	83	4.1	7,917	4.9
Yugoslavia	81	4.0	5,462	3.4
Hong Kong and Taiwan	117	5.7	5,610	3.5
India	115	5.6	6,736	4.2
Philippines	79	3.9	3,138	1.9
Australasia	62	3.0	3,523	2.2
United States	97	4.8	19,258	11.9
West Indies	191	9.4	13,803	8.6
Others	506	24.8	41,683	25.8
Total	2,037	100.0	161,531	100.0

### CONTROL GROUP CHARACTERISTICS

To provide some standard by which the experiences and attitudes of the newly landed immigrants under study could be compared, a control sample was selected of persons who were either native-born or had lived in Canada for some time.

The effectiveness of this comparison lies in the matching of certain basic characteristics between the immigrant sample and the control group. Factors considered to be particularly important in this respect include age, sex, geographical location, and occupation. These variables not only have a significant effect on the adaptive processes of

immigrants, with which the study is primarily concerned, but their distribution within the immigrant sample differs considerably from that in the general Canadian population.

A control sample of 5,000 Canadian labour force participants stratified by age, sex, occupation and geographical location was selected, and a first questionnaire was mailed on a monthly basis throughout 1970. Approximately 50 per cent of the sample replied to this questionnaire.

Since it was not possible to match all the relevant characteristics at the time the Canadian control group was selected, screening had to be carried out subsequently to make them more representative of the immigrant sample. For example, a special check was made to eliminate all married women from the control group sample, since they were not included in the immigrant sample. Another control was made with regard to year of immigration (when applicable) to exclude newly landed immigrants from the Canadian control group. These operations reduced the size of the control group sample, but improved its representativeness.

The following comments are based on the information obtained from the third questionnaire given the control group, i.e. a total sample of 1,439 respondents. The characteristics of the control group respondents were examined and compared with those of the immigrant sample, in terms of age, sex, marital status, education, occupation, and province of residence.

## Age and Sex

The age and sex structure of the control group was fairly representative of the immigrant sample (Table A.8), with the exception of slightly larger concentrations in the age groups 35 to 49. The average age of the control group was consequently 31 years, compared to 30 years for the immigrant sample.

TABLE A.8

 DISTRIBUTION BY AGE AND SEX OF CONTROL  
 GROUP AND IMMIGRANT SAMPLE  
 (Percentages in Italics)

Age Group	Control Group 1969			Immigrant Sample 1969		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
15-19	15 1.2	4 1.7	19 1.3	58 3.3	18 6.2	76 3.7
20-24	219 18.1	70 30.4	289 20.1	373 21.4	107 36.8	480 23.6
25-29	312 25.8	69 30.0	381 26.5	485 27.8	83 28.5	568 27.9
30-34	250 20.7	34 14.8	284 19.7	344 19.7	50 17.2	394 19.4
35-39	172 14.2	24 10.4	196 13.6	226 12.9	17 5.8	243 11.9
40-44	84 7.0	7 3.1	91 6.3	125 7.1	6 2.1	131 6.4
45-49	79 6.5	8 3.5	87 6.0	62 3.6	7 2.4	69 3.4
50-54	30 2.5	4 1.7	34 2.4	41 2.3	1 0.3	42 2.1
55-59	22 1.8	5 2.2	27 1.9	24 1.4	2 0.7	26 1.3
60-64	12 1.0	2 0.9	14 1.0	7 0.4	— —	7 0.3
65 +	— —	— —	— —	1 0.1	— —	1 —
Not reported	14 1.2	3 1.3	17 1.2	— —	— —	— —
Total	1,209 100.0	230 100.0	1,439 100.0	1,746 100.0	291 100.0	2,037 100.0

## Marital Status

The marital status reported by the control group participants after the third questionnaire shows an over-representation of male married respondents and of "other" females respondents. Married females were excluded from the survey.

TABLE A.9  
 DISTRIBUTION BY MARITAL STATUS AND SEX  
 OF CONTROL GROUP AND IMMIGRANT SAMPLE  
 (Percentages in Italics)

Marital Status	Control Group 1969			Immigrant Sample 1969		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Single	231 19.1	193 83.9	424 29.5	630 36.1	291 100.0	921 45.2
Married	949 78.5	— —	949 66.0	1,093 62.6	— —	1,093 53.7
Other	29 2.4	37 16.1	66 4.5	23 1.3	— —	23 1.1
Total	1,209 100.0	230 100.0	1,439 100.0	1,746 100.0	291 100.0	2,037 100.0

## Education

It can be seen in Table A.10 that control group members had a higher level of education than the immigrant sample. A greater proportion of control group members had attained university level (14 years of schooling or more).

## Occupation

The occupation of the control group members was fairly representative of the intended occupations reported by the immigrant sample (Table A.11). Thirty-six per cent of control group members were in professional and technical occupations. Crafts, production and process occupations (29.4 per cent) were only slightly underrepresented in the control group vis-à-vis their immigrant counterparts (by about three per cent).

TABLE A. 10  
DISTRIBUTION BY YEARS OF SCHOOLING  
OF CONTROL GROUP AND IMMIGRANT SAMPLE

Years of schooling	Control Group 1969		Immigrant Sample 1969	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
1-8	218	15.2	533	26.2
9-11	448	31.1	623	30.6
12-13	353	24.5	339	16.6
14-15	140	9.7	142	7.0
16-17	174	12.1	213	10.5
18 +	100	7.0	184	9.0
Not reported	6	0.4	3	0.1
Total	1,439	100.0	2,037	100.0

### Region of Residence

Because of technical difficulties, it did not prove possible to obtain an adequate geographical distribution of control group members. Only 4.4 per cent of control group members were Quebec residents as opposed to 15.3 per cent of the immigrant sample. Despite the under-sampling in this region, however, there is no evidence of any bias insofar as the other characteristics of the Quebec sample are concerned.

TABLE A. 11

DISTRIBUTION BY OCCUPATION IN WHICH  
 TRAINING WAS OBTAINED FOR CONTROL GROUP  
 AND BY INTENDED OCCUPATION OF IMMIGRANT  
 SAMPLE

Occupation group	Control Group 1969		Immigrant Sample 1969	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Managerial & entrepreneurs	30	2.1	81	4.0
Professional & technical	521	36.2	674	33.1
Clerical	84	5.8	235	11.5
Sales	28	1.9	97	4.8
Service & recreation	75	5.2	122	6.0
Transportation & communication	62	4.3	27	1.3
Farmers & farm workers	16	1.1	66	3.2
Loggers & related workers	1	0.1	2	0.1
Fishermen, trappers & hunters	3	0.2	-	-
Miners, quarrymen & related workers	6	0.4	10	0.5
Craftsmen, production process & related workers	423	29.4	660	32.4
Labourers	24	1.7	40	2.0
Not reported	166	11.6	23	1.1
Total	1,439	100.0	2,037	100.0

TABLE A. 12

DISTRIBUTION BY REGION OF RESIDENCE OF  
 CONTROL GROUP AND INTENDED RESIDENCE OF  
 THE IMMIGRANT SAMPLE

Region of residence	Control Group 1969		Immigrant Sample 1969	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Atlantic Provinces	15	1.0	51	2.5
Quebec	63	4.4	312	15.3
Ontario	886	61.6	1,096	53.8
Prairie Provinces	296	20.6	316	15.5
British Columbia	179	12.4	262	12.9
Total	1,439	100.0	2,037	100.0







